

Archie
ADVENTURE
SERIES

NO. 96 US \$1.99
CAN \$2.39

THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG

SEGA

Anniversary
10TH
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG

After ten long years, the iron-fisted rule of DOCTOR ROBOTNIK over planet MOBIUS was believed to have finally ended! With the technological tyrant vanquished and his polluted factories shut down, order and beauty were restored to the city of MOBOTROPOLIS. Now the villain has returned to wreak havoc once more, but there are many who are willing to stand against him in the fight for freedom. The bravest among them is a brash, blue streak who just happens to be the fastest thing alive! ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!

THE MESSENGER

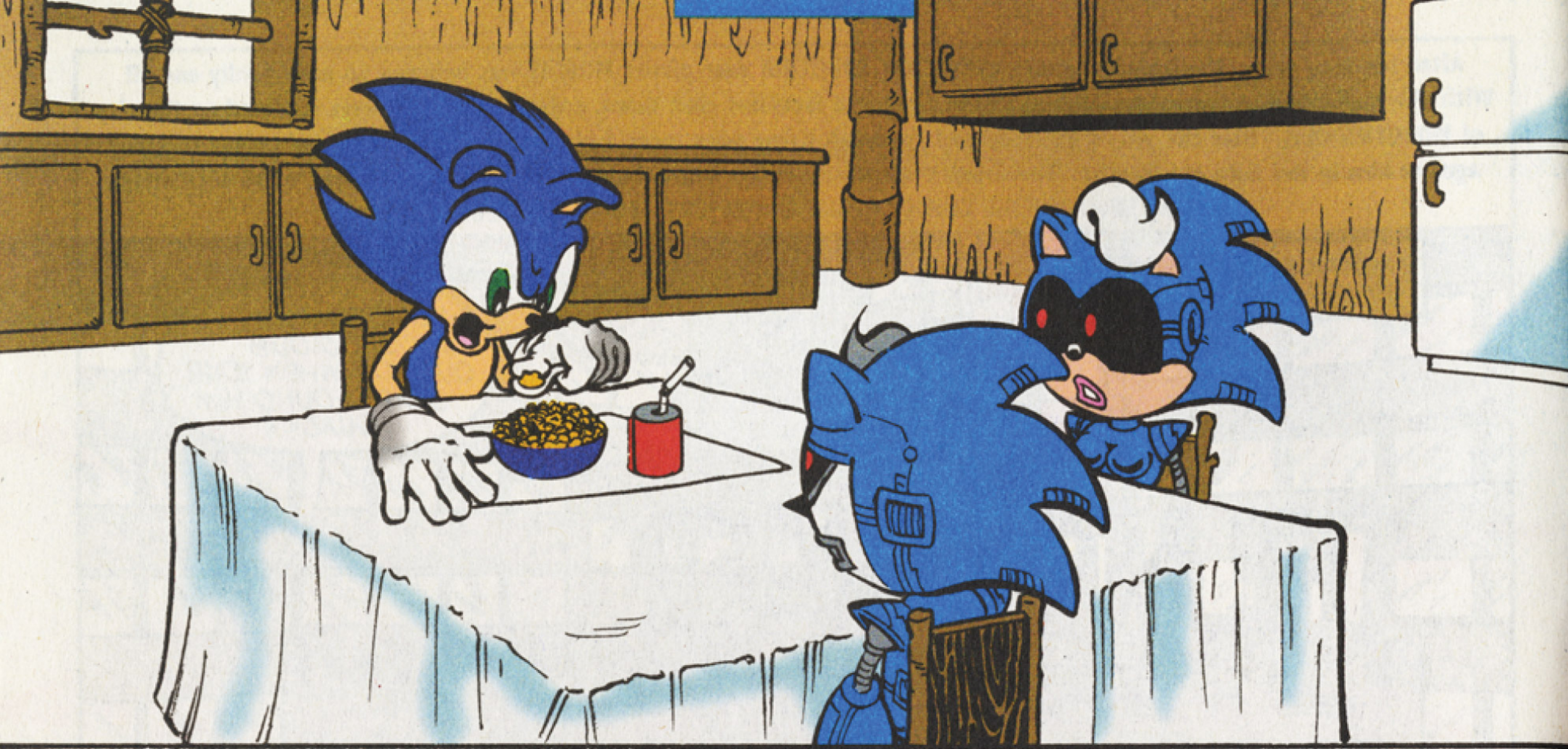
KARL BOLLERS	NELSON RIBEIRO	PAM EKLUND & JIM AMASH	JEFF POWELL	FRANK GAGLIARDO
WRITER	PENCILS	INKERS	LETTERER	COLORIST
J.F. GABRIE - EDITOR/ART DIRECTOR	VICTOR GORELICK - MANAGING EDITOR	RICHARD GOLDWATER - EDITOR IN CHIEF		

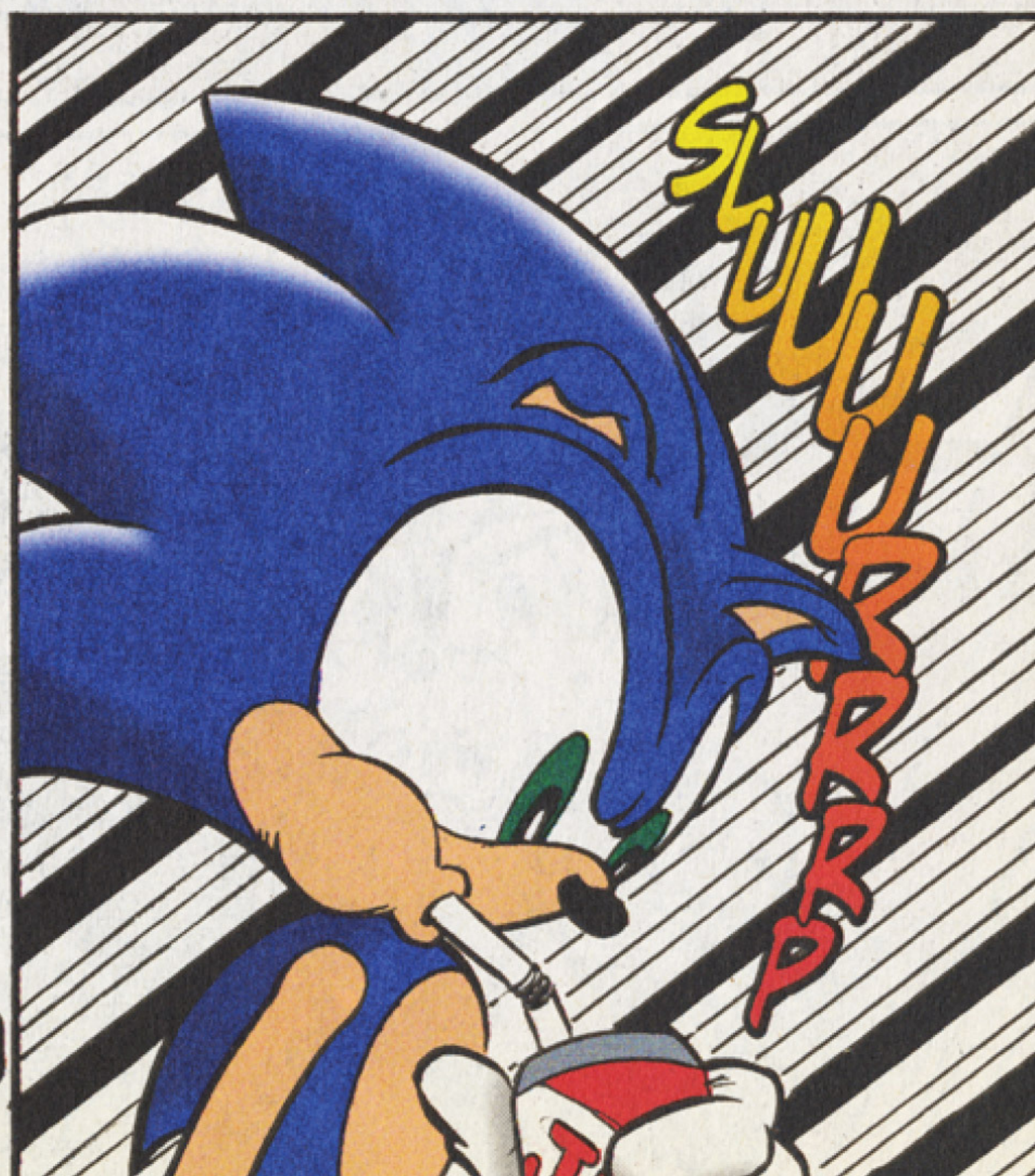
YES, AND SUFFERING FROM RADIATION-POISONING-- IT'S AFFECTED HIM PHYSICALLY AS WELL AS MENTALLY.

BUT HOW DID HE GET THERE?!

WELL, THAT'S WHY I CALLED YOU, ST. JOHN-- IT'S A MYSTERY!

I CAN THINK OF AT LEAST ONE SUSPECT



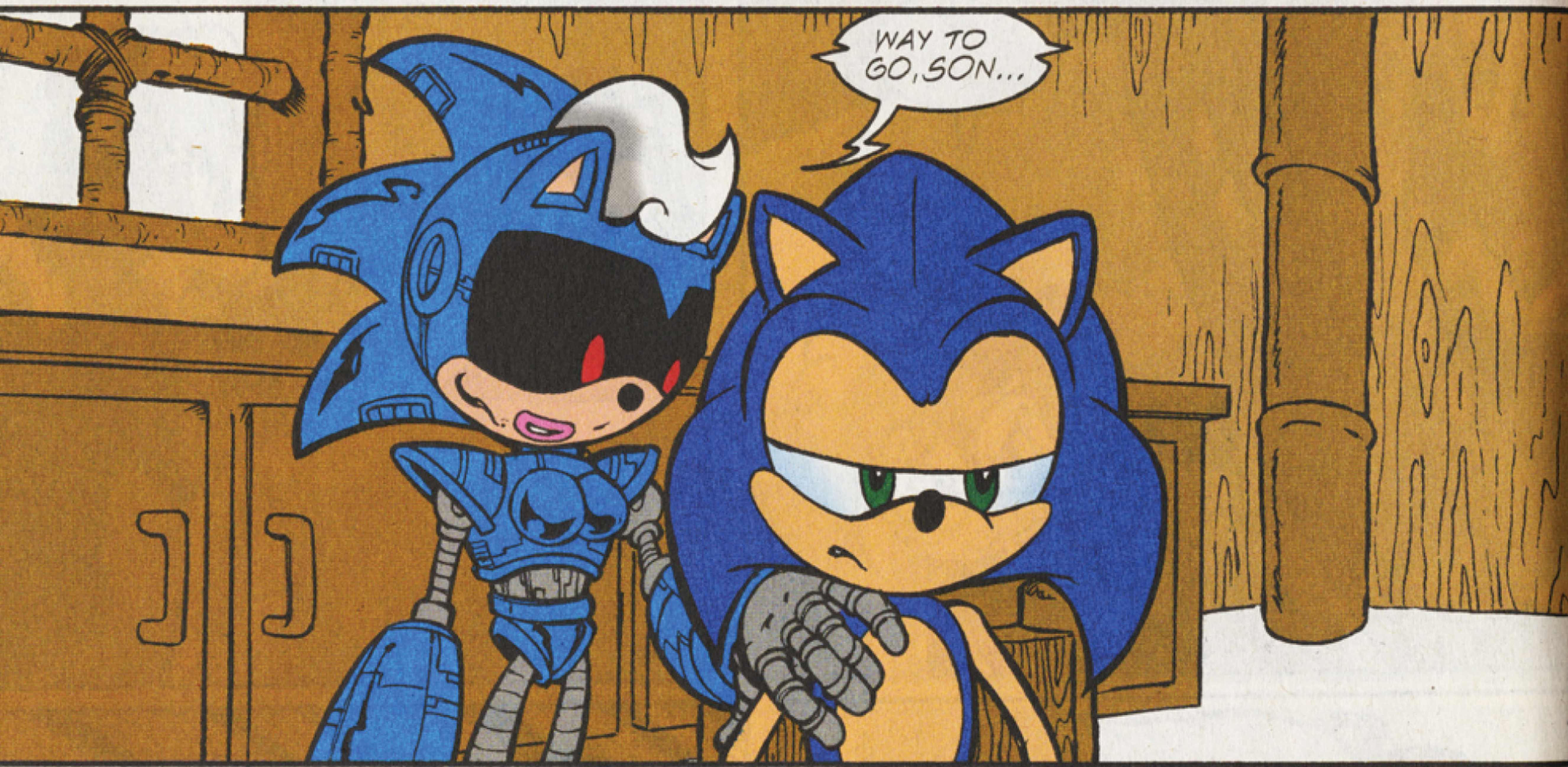




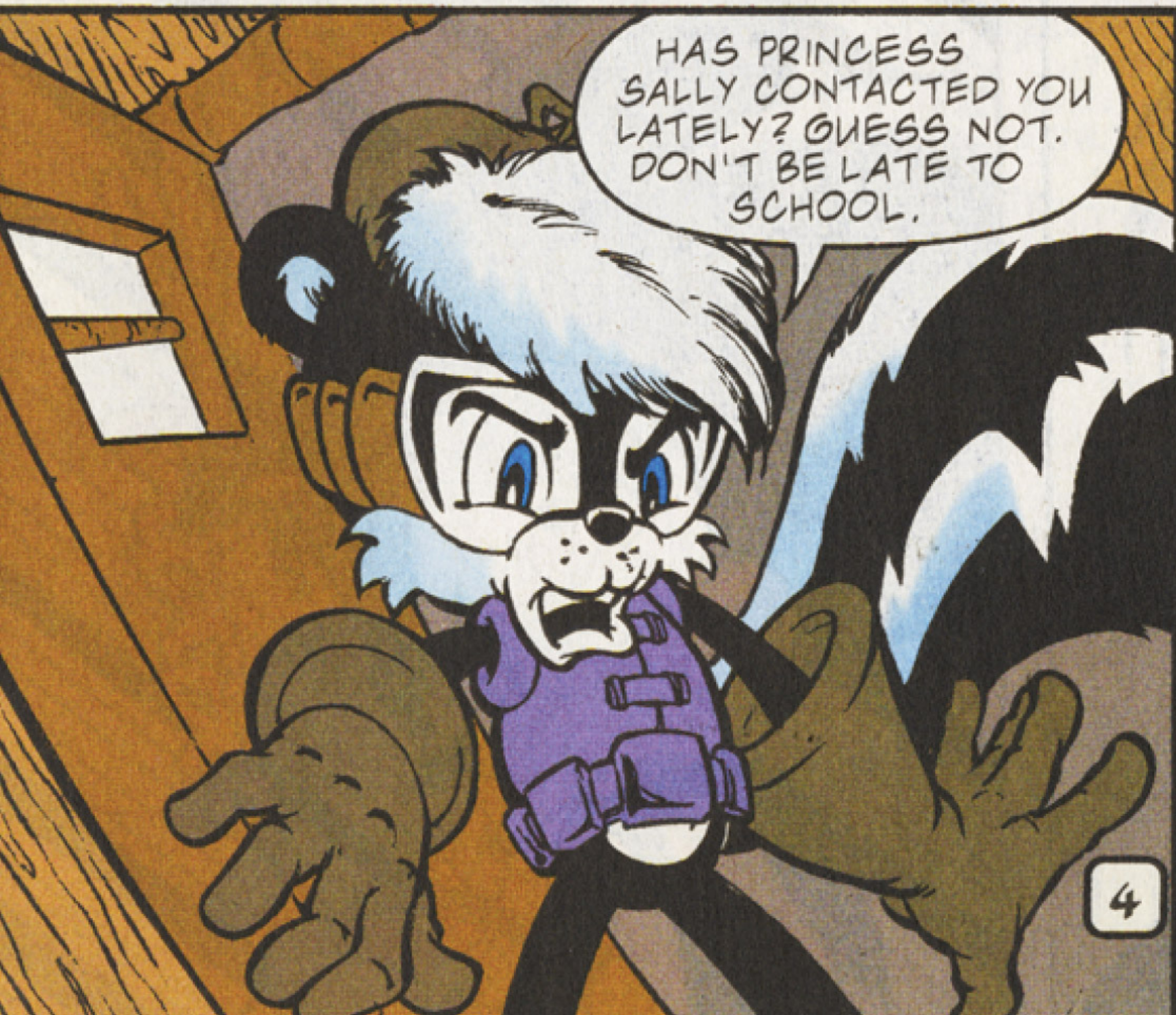
UHHH...
HOW DID
WHO GET
WHERE?



BLAST.



WAY TO
GO, SON...

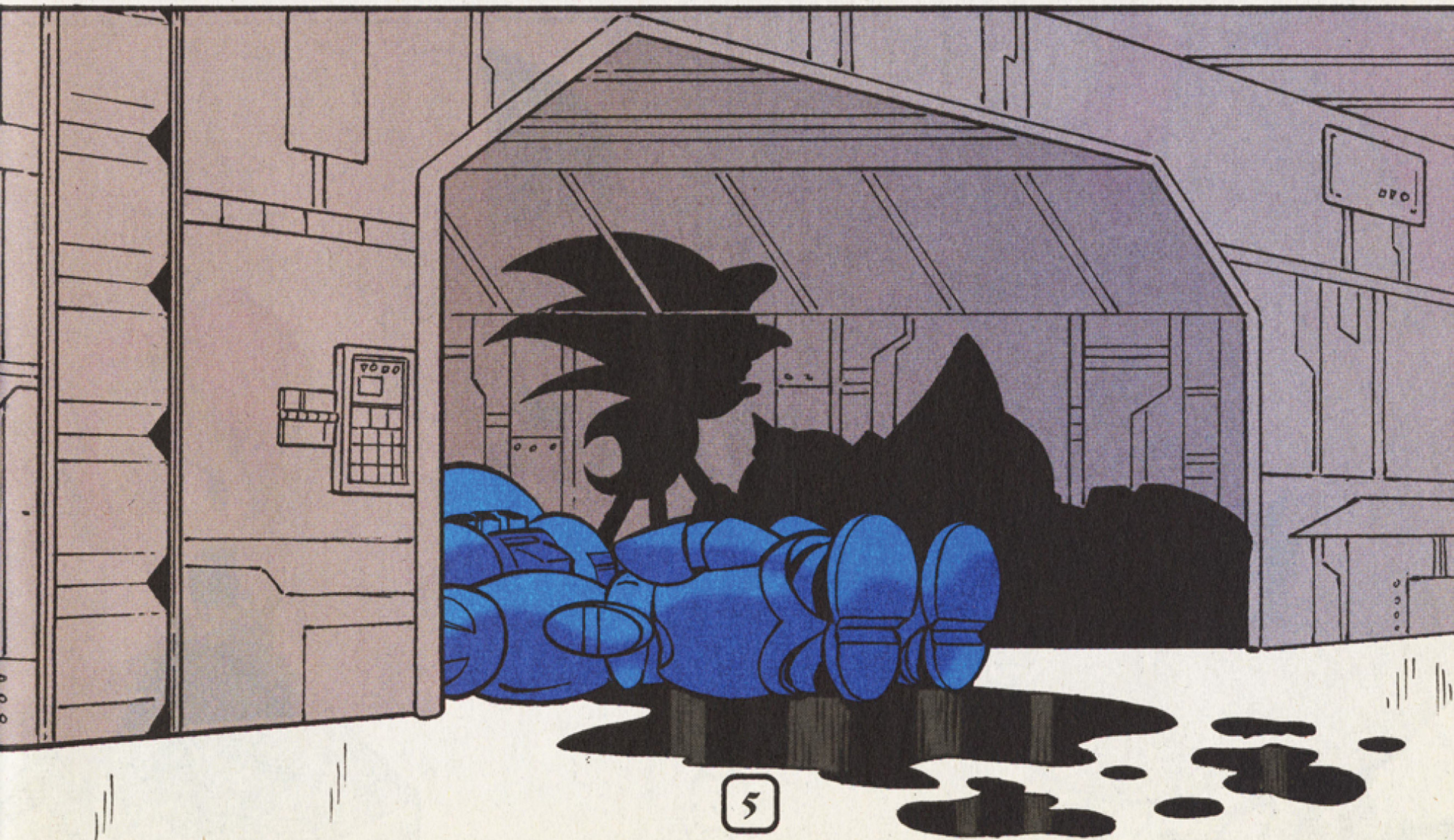
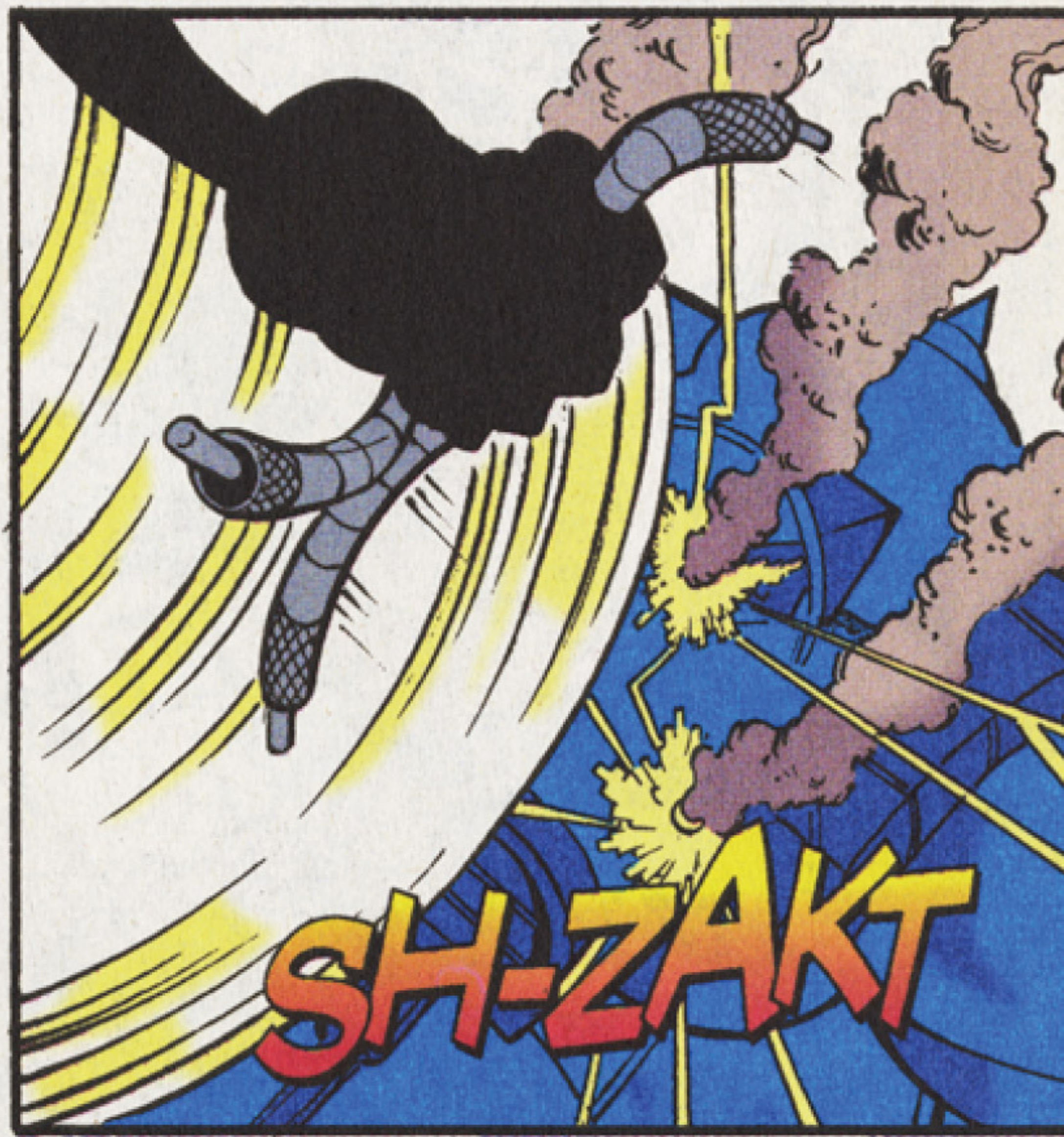
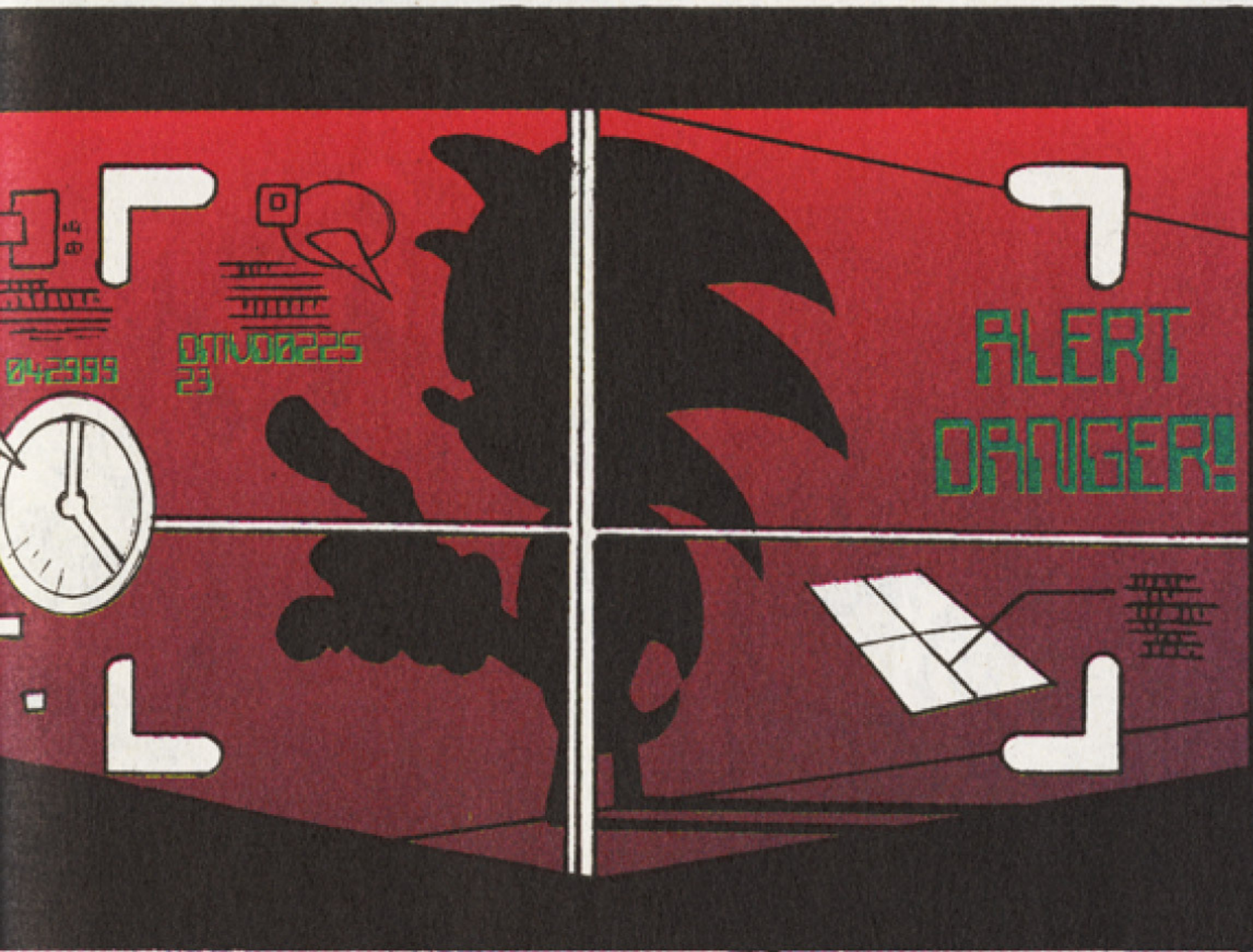
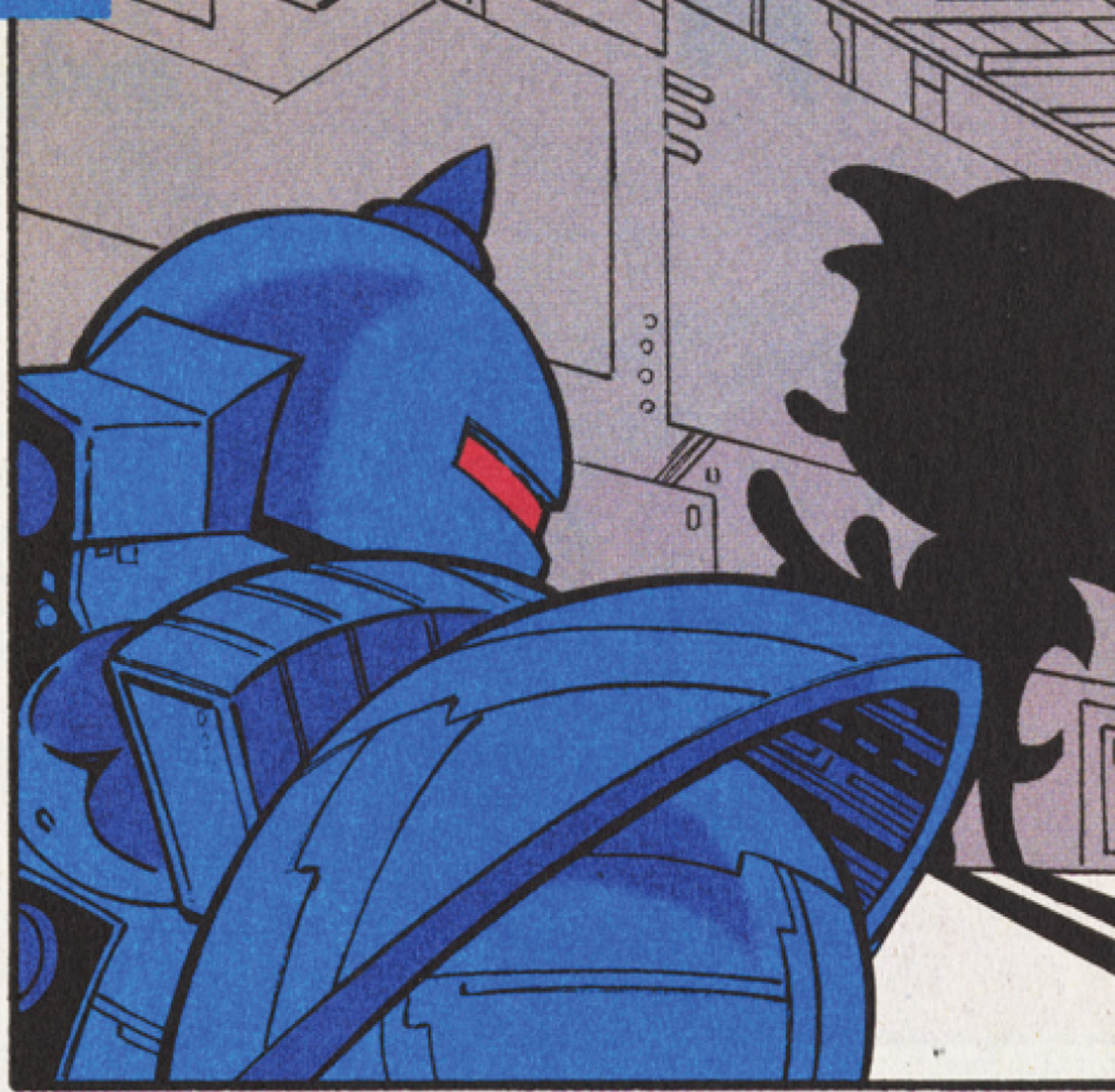
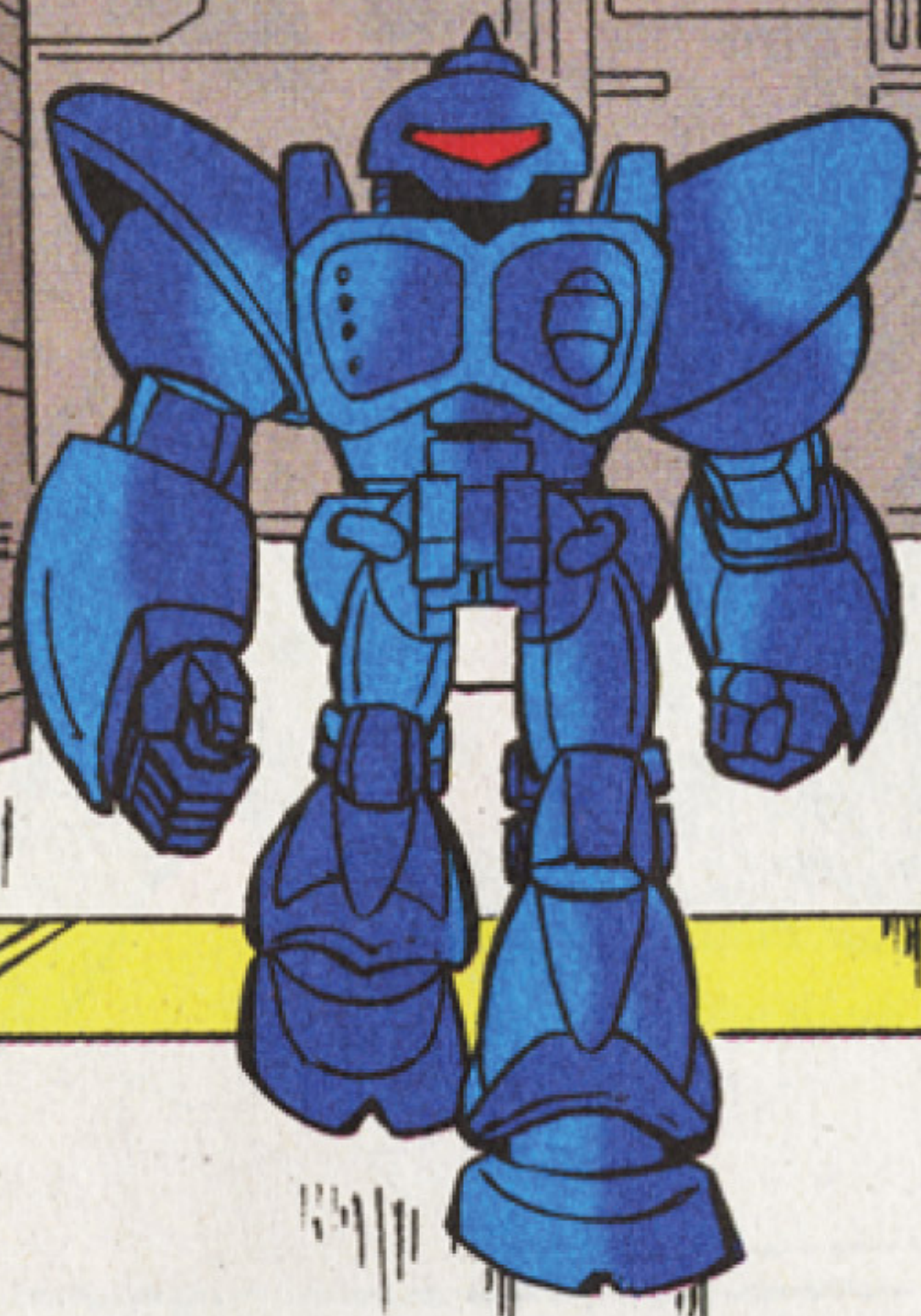


HAS PRINCESS
SALLY CONTACTED YOU
LATELY? GUESS NOT.
DON'T BE LATE TO
SCHOOL.

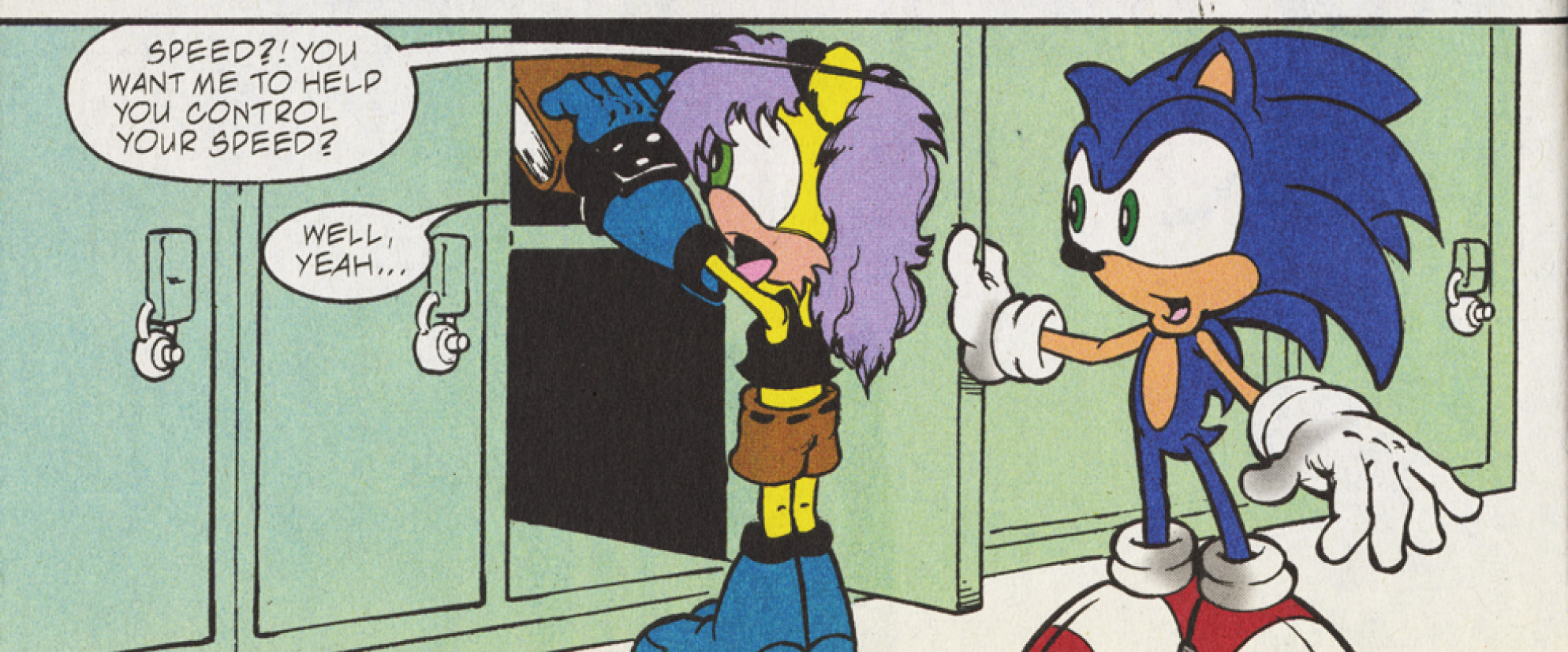
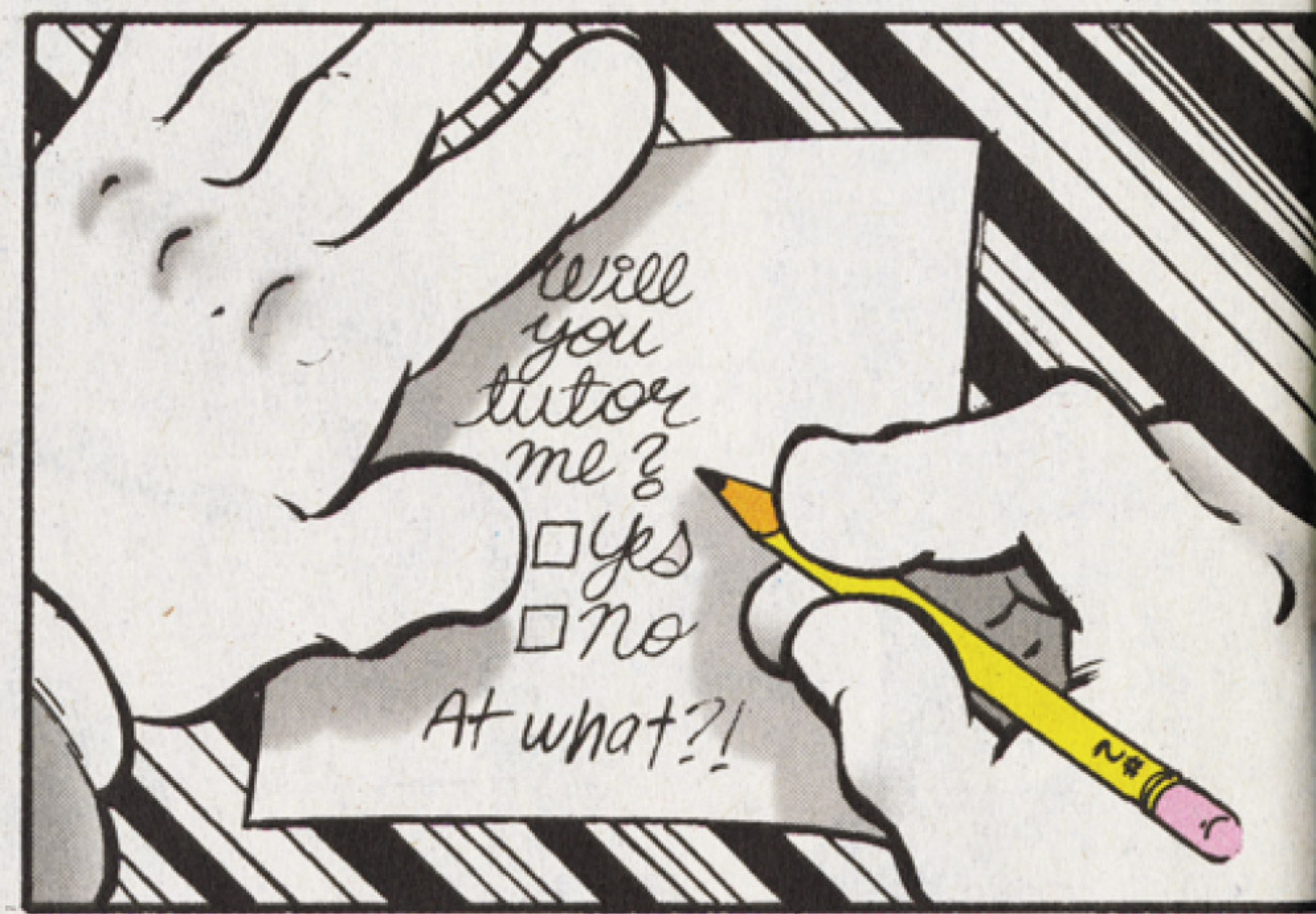
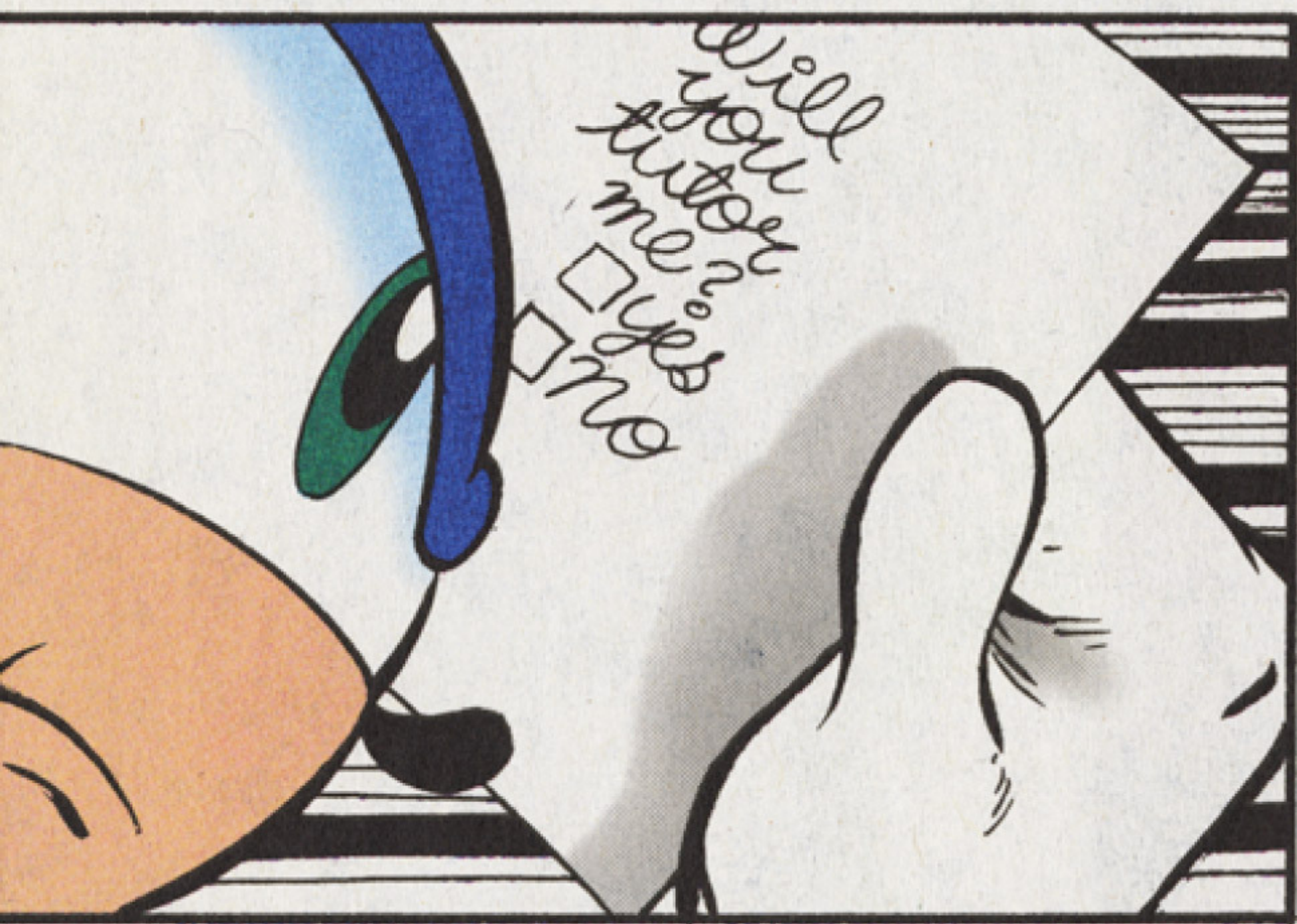
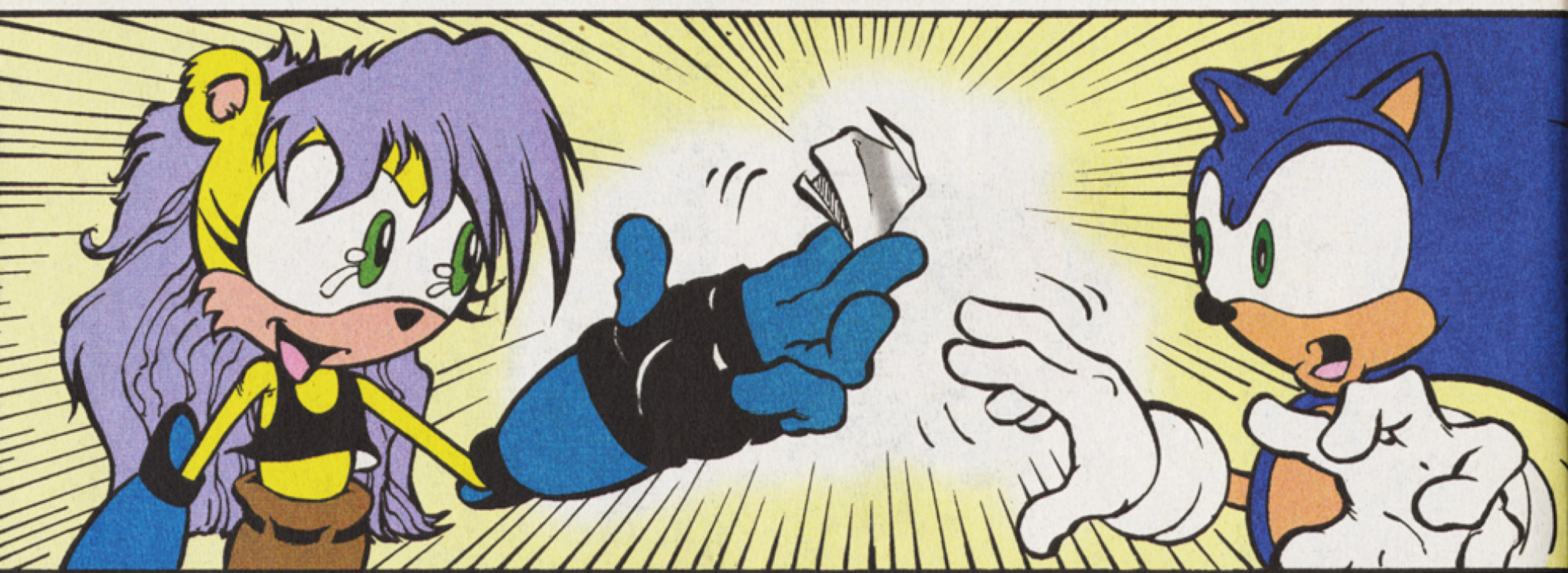
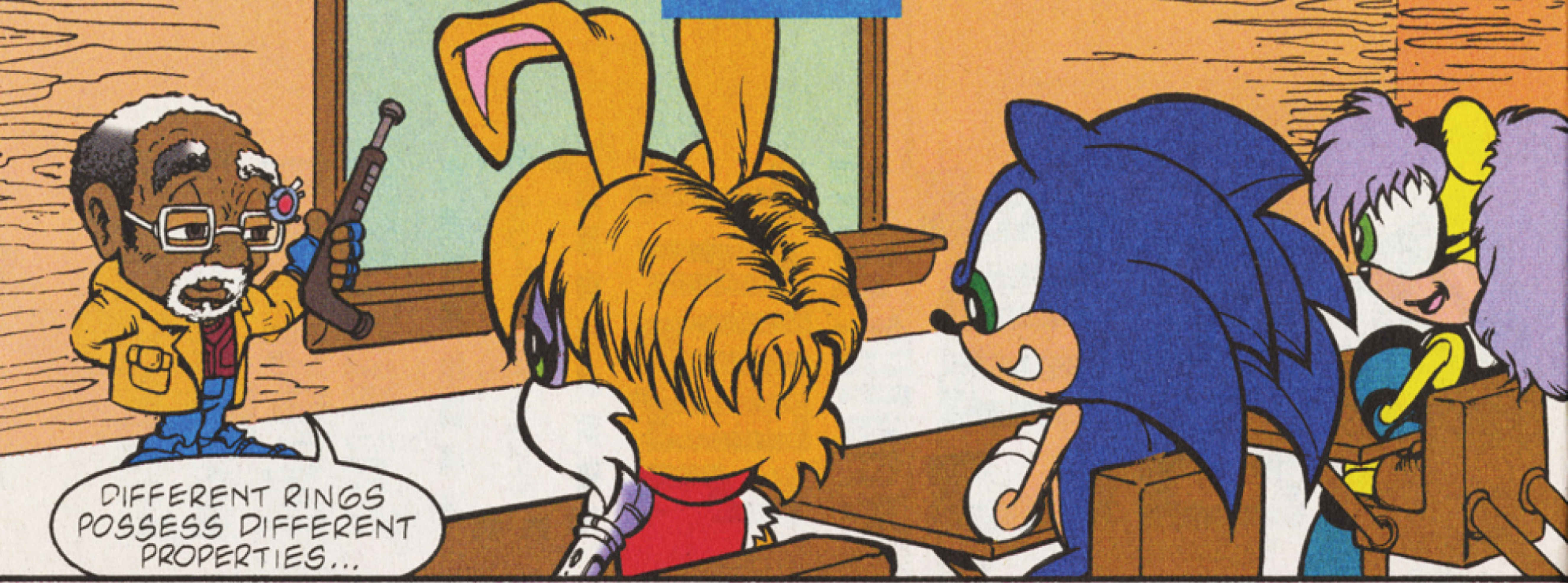


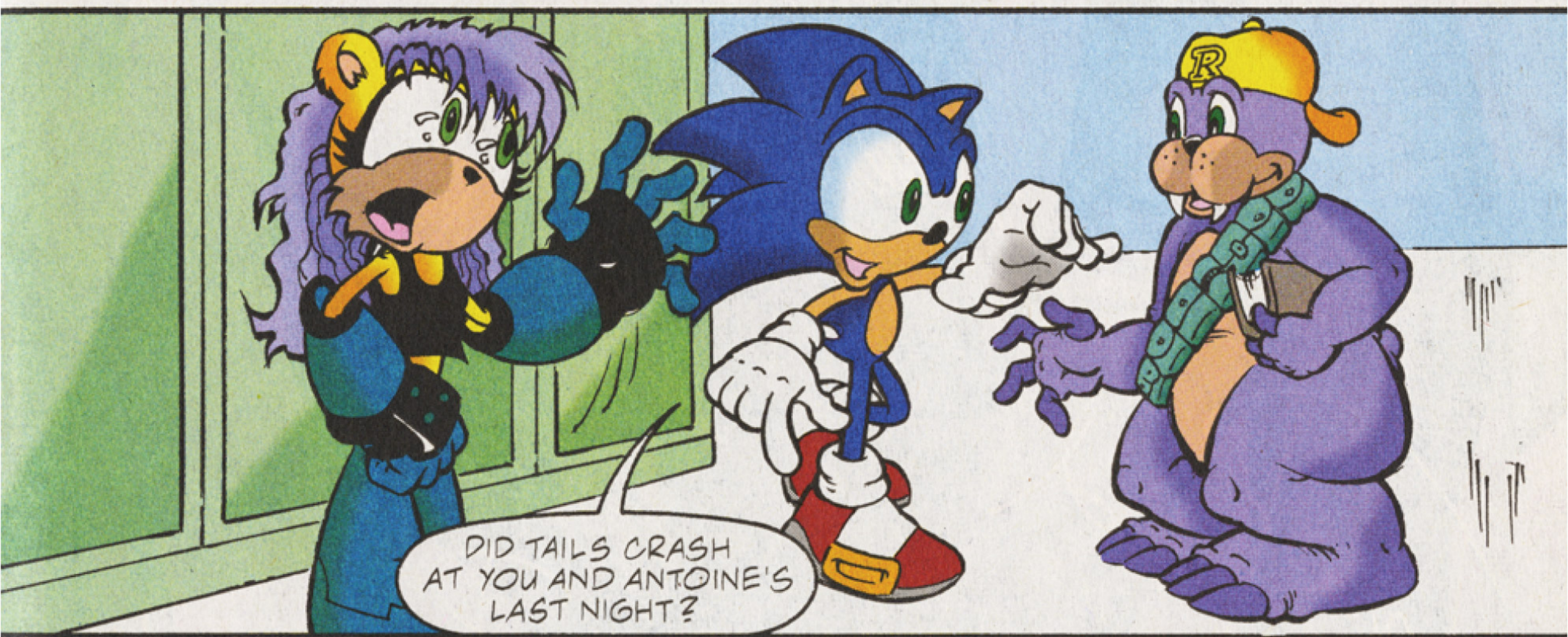
I SURE
HATE THAT
GUY.

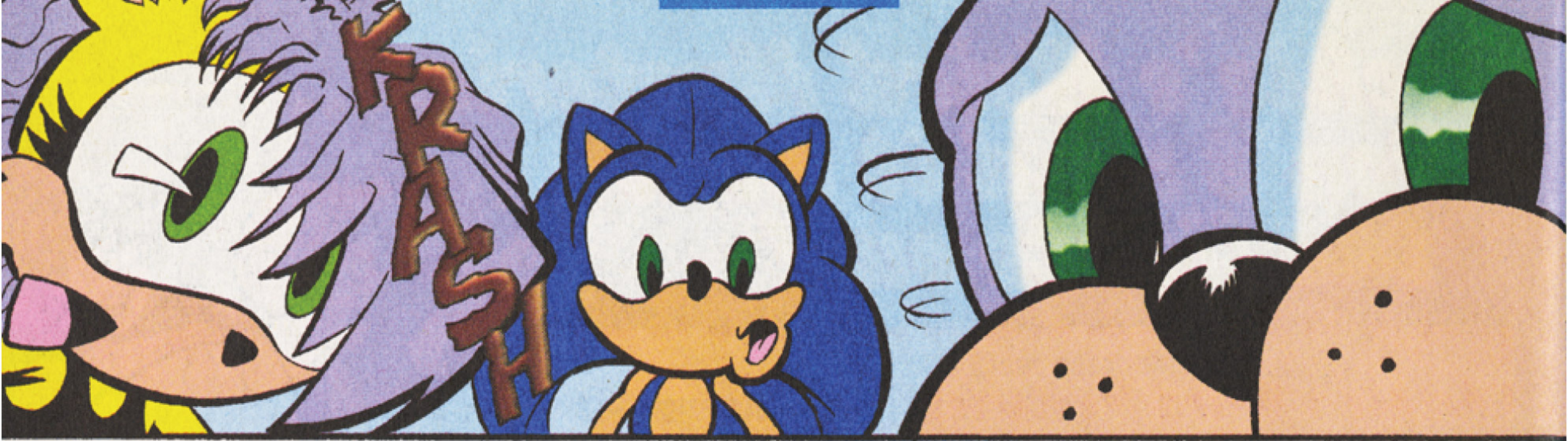
ROBOTNIK'S BASE...





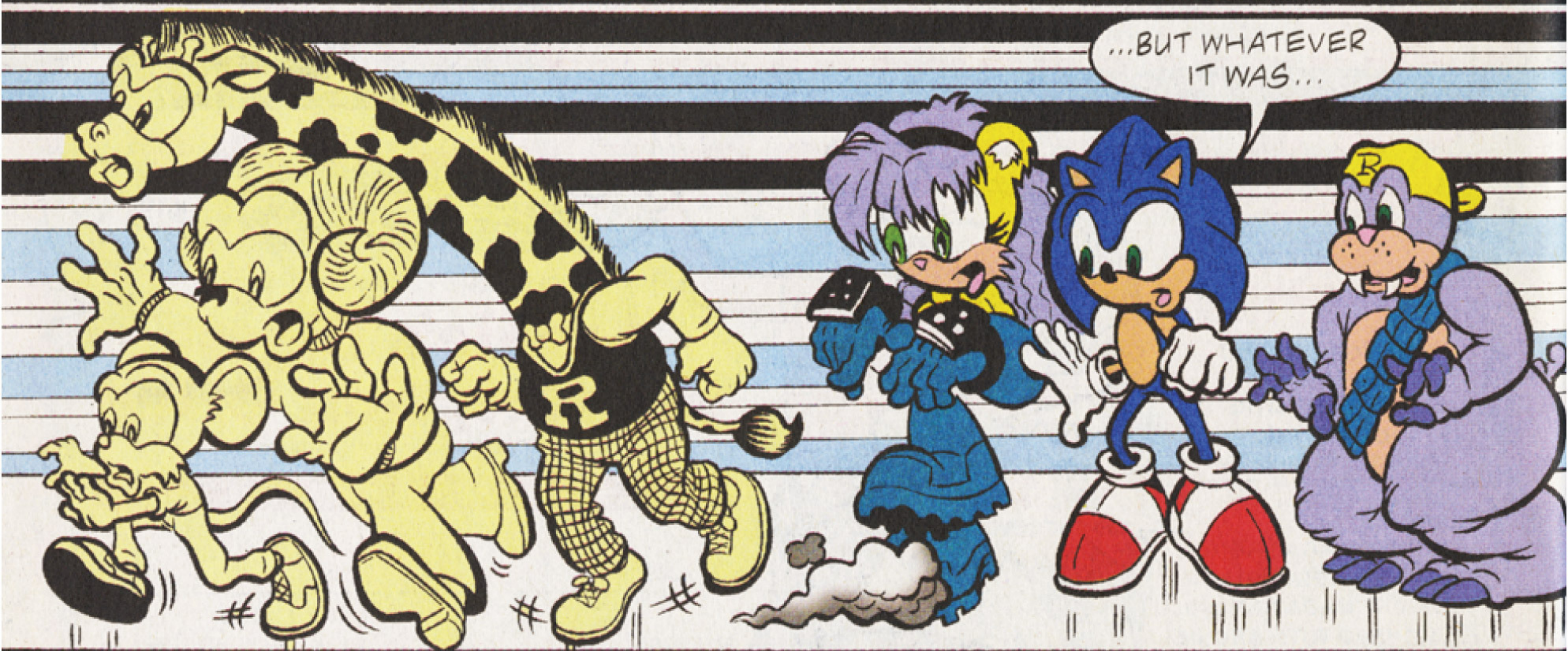
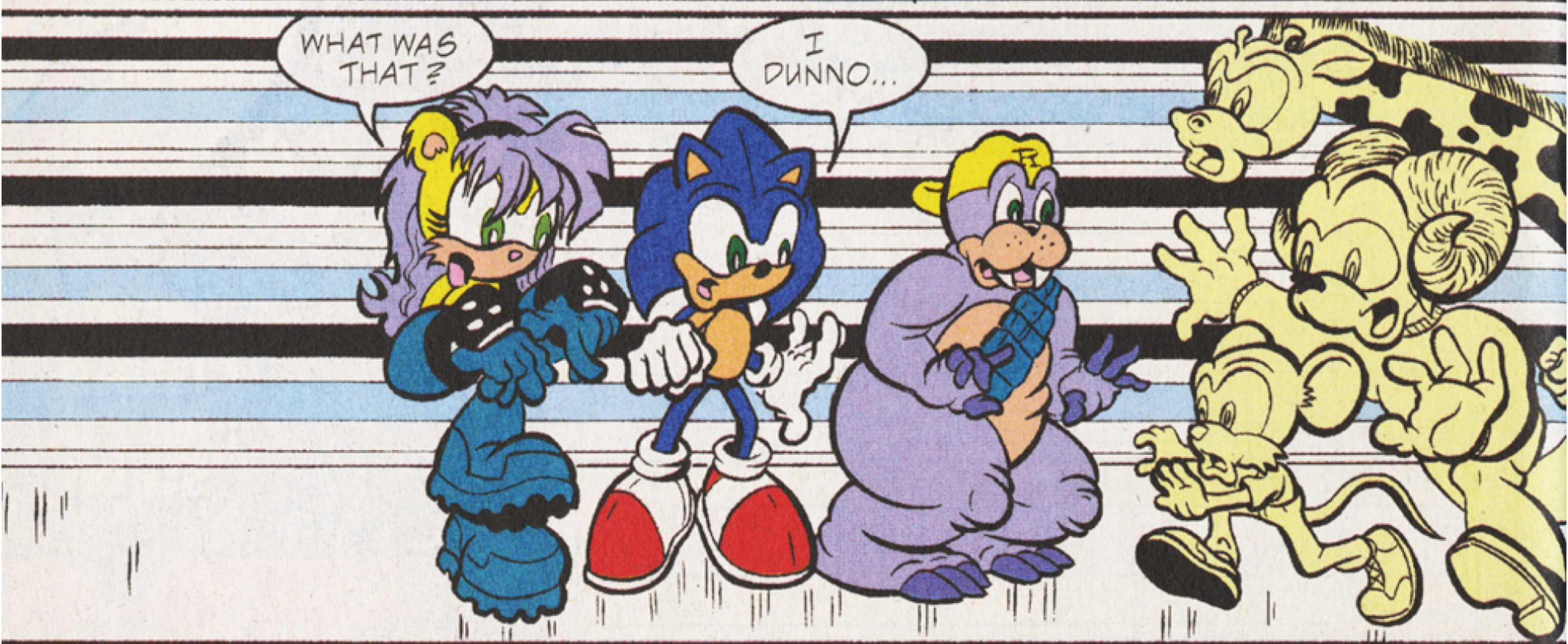






WHAT WAS THAT?

I DUNNO...



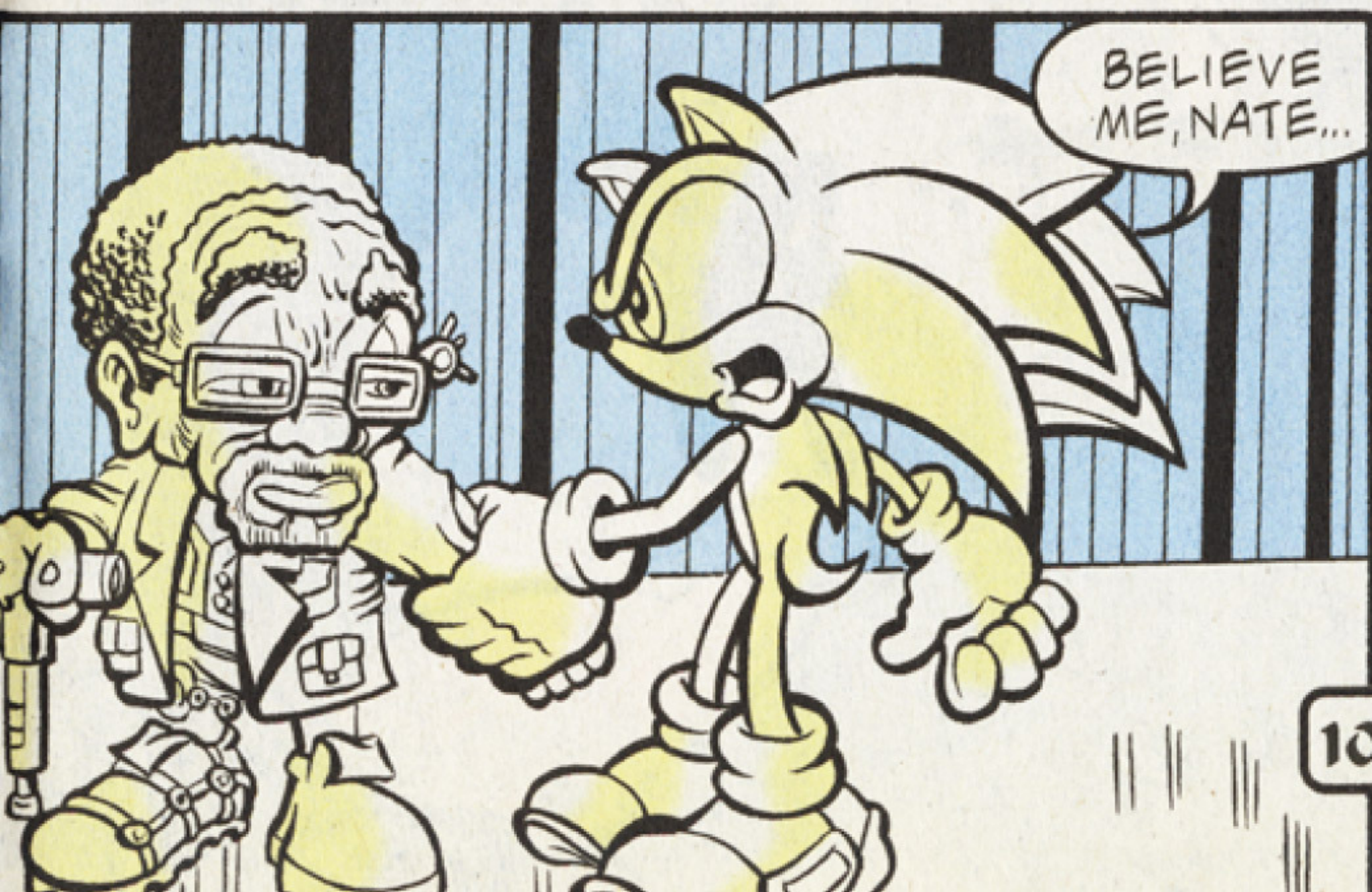
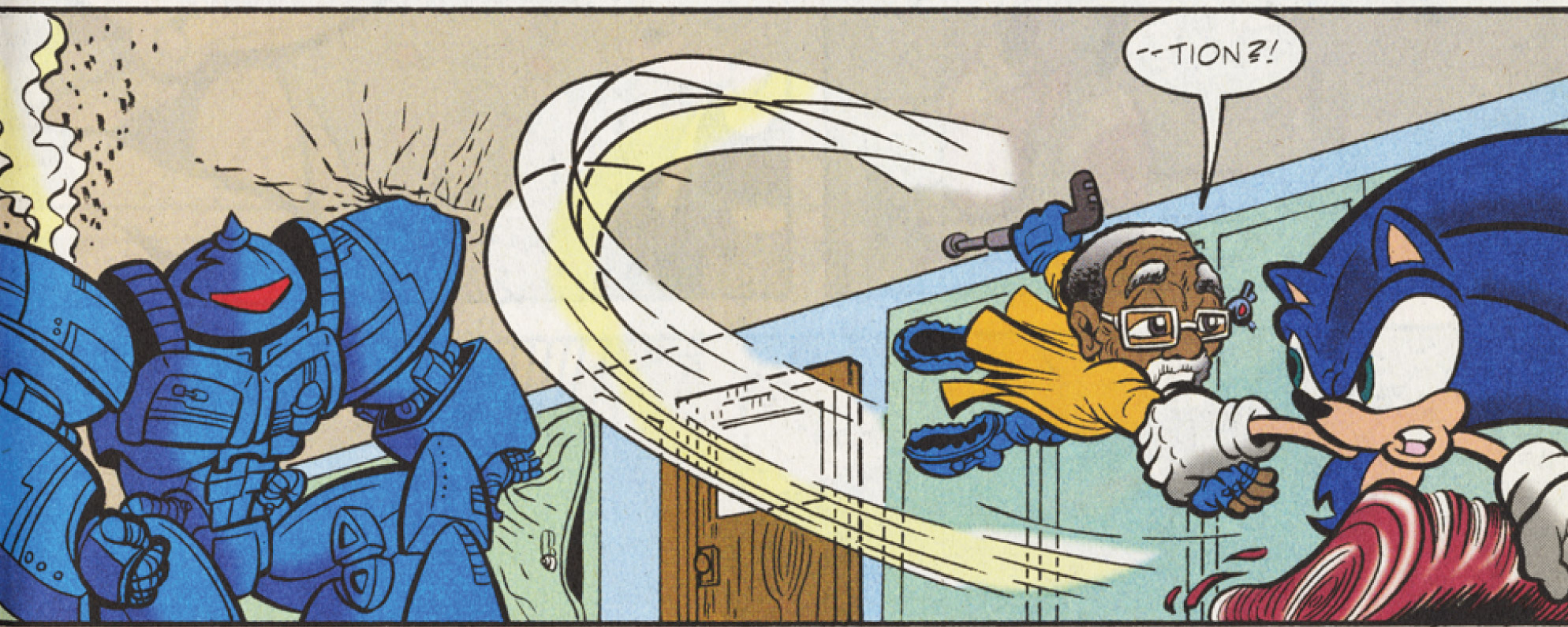
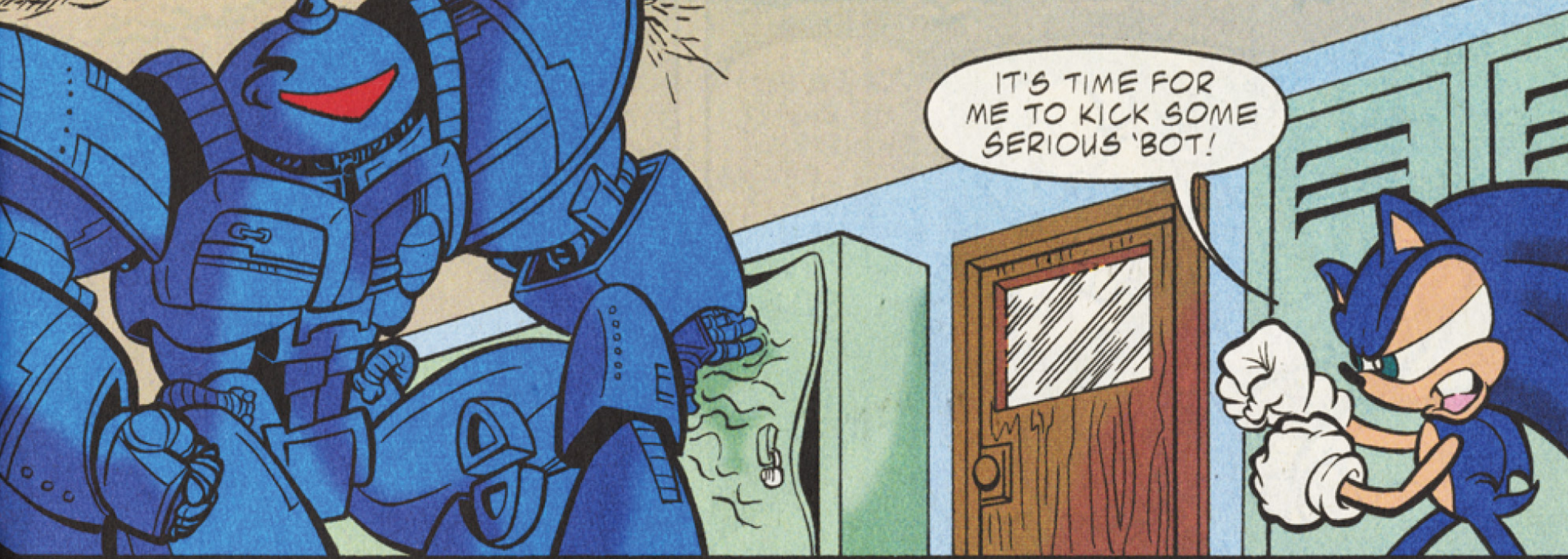
...BUT WHATEVER IT WAS...

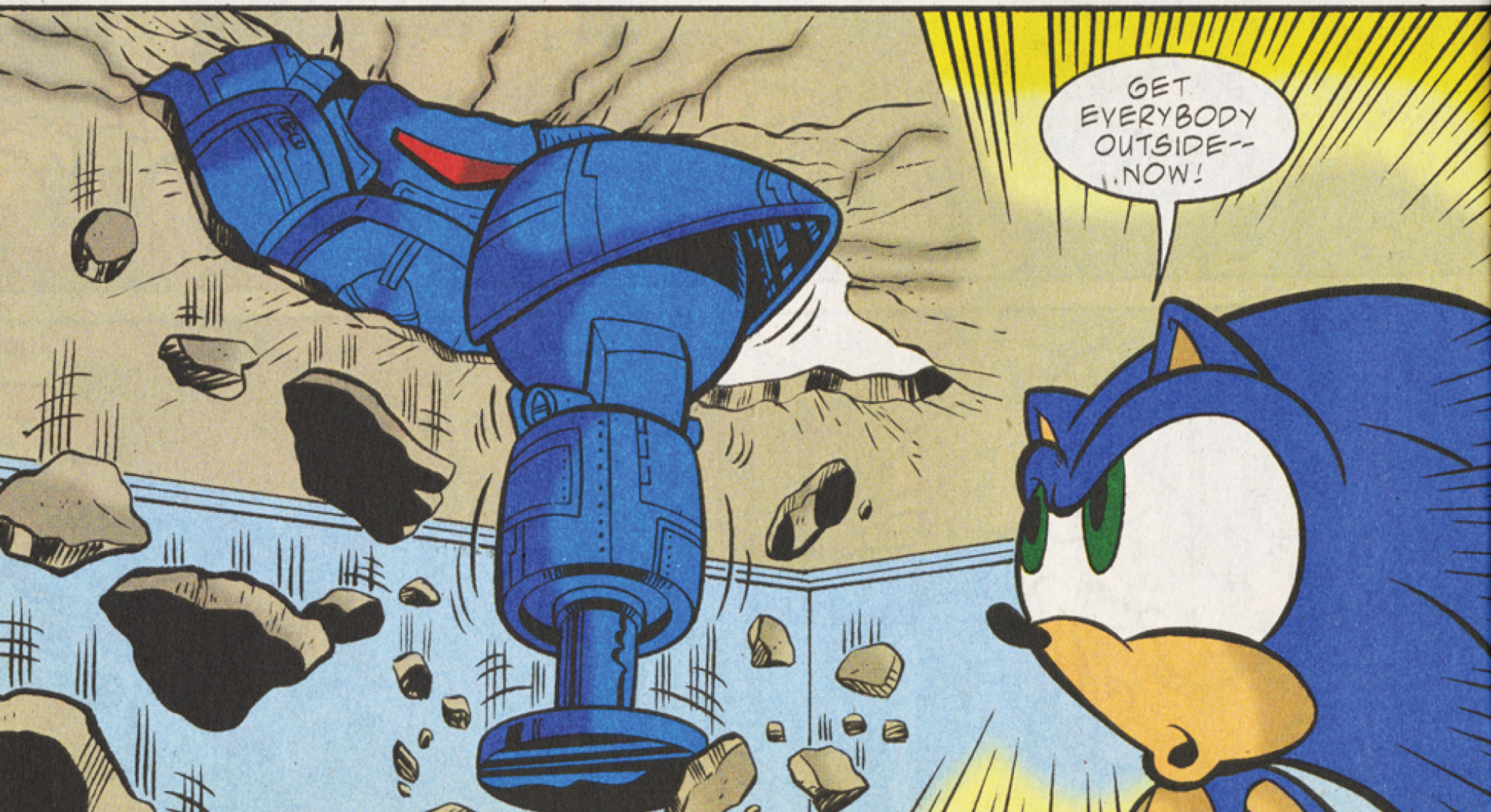
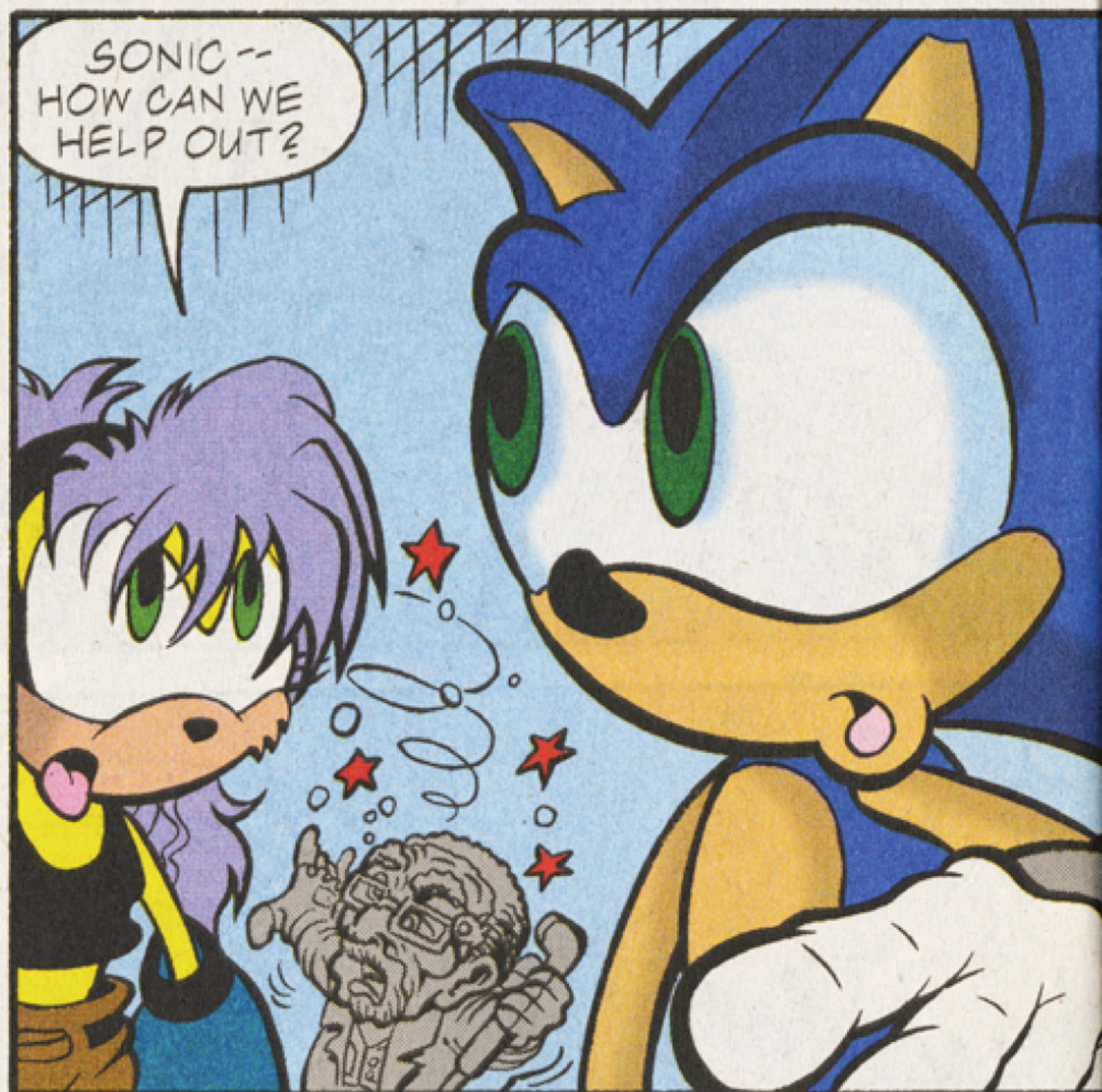
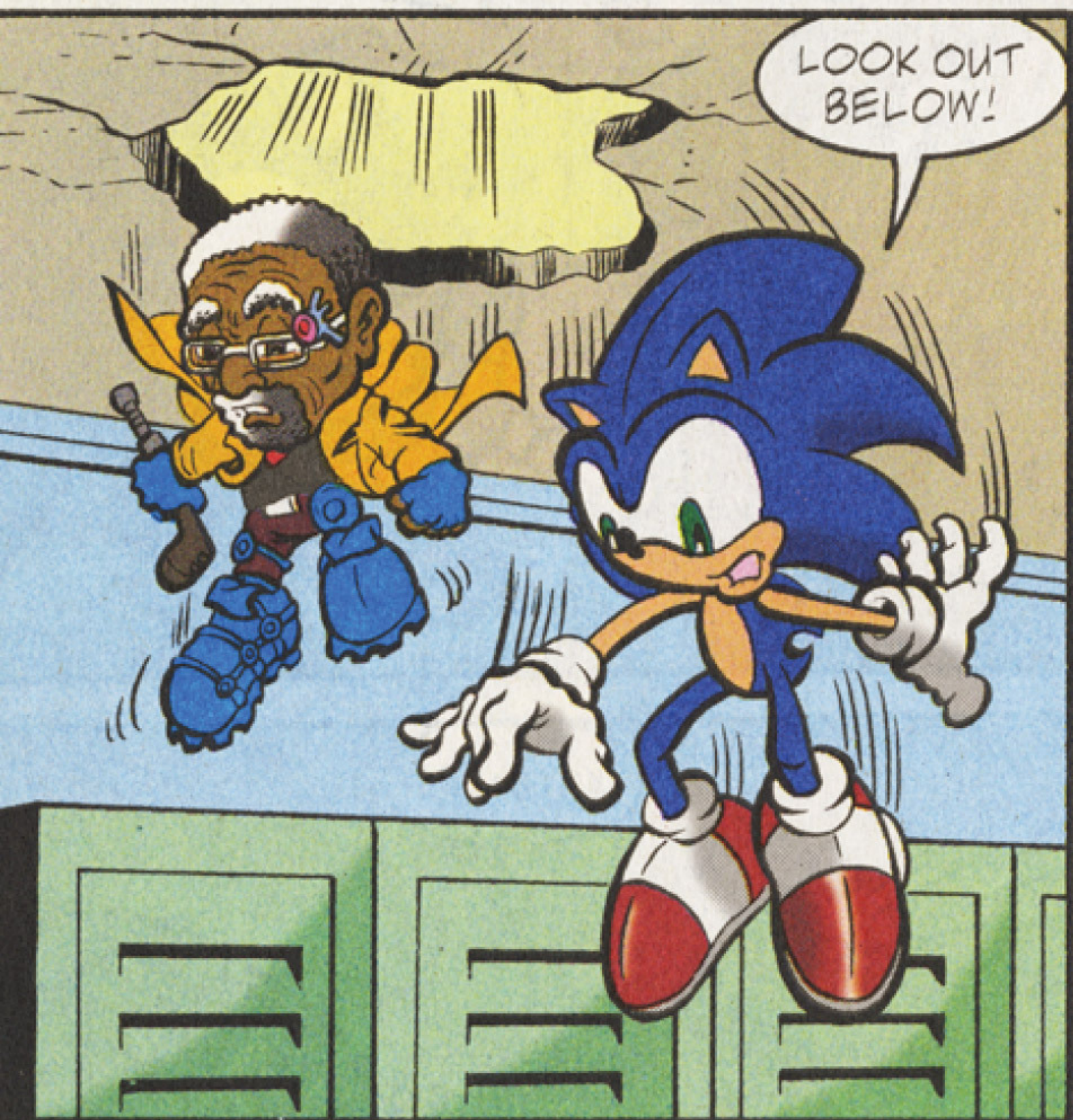
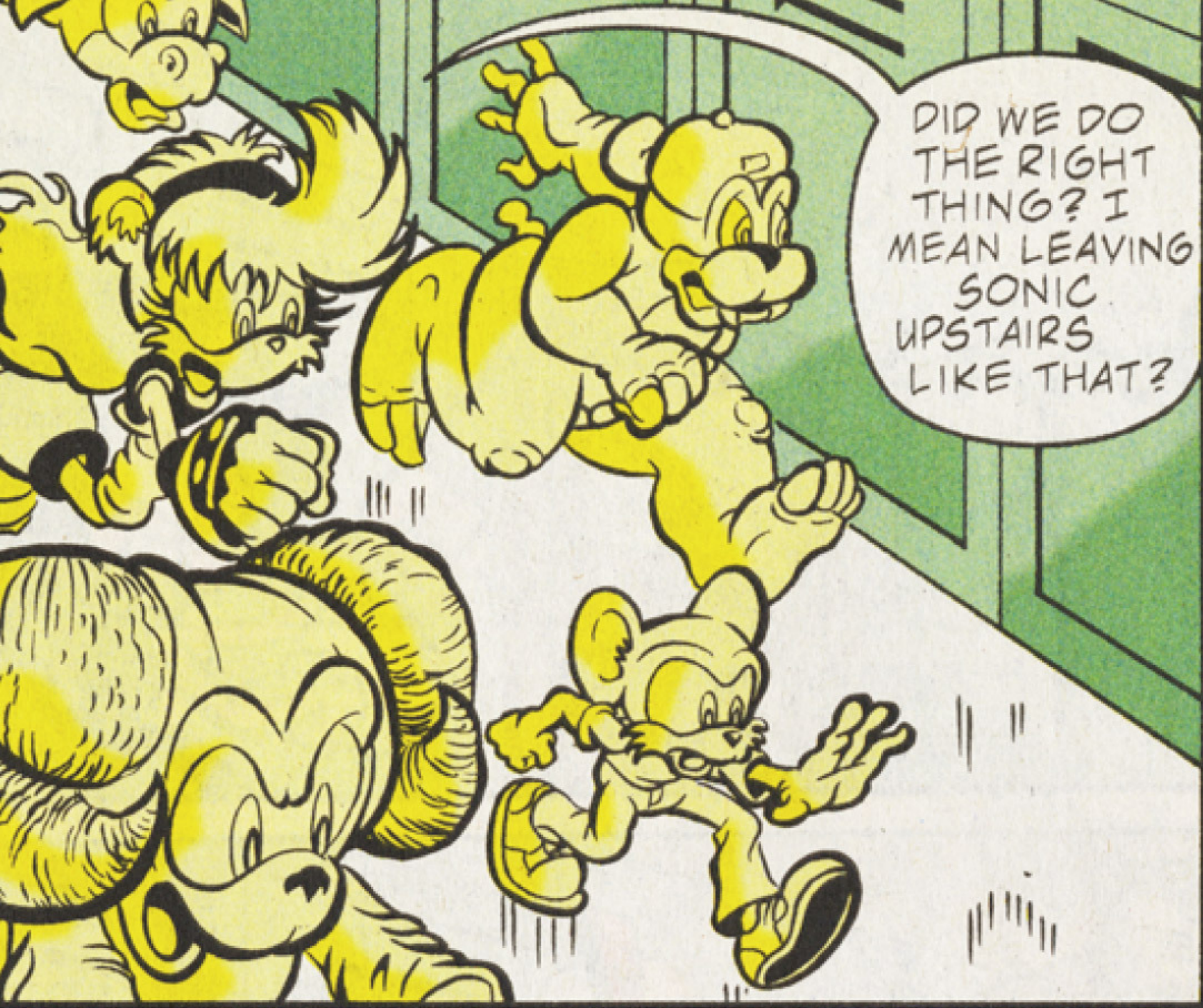


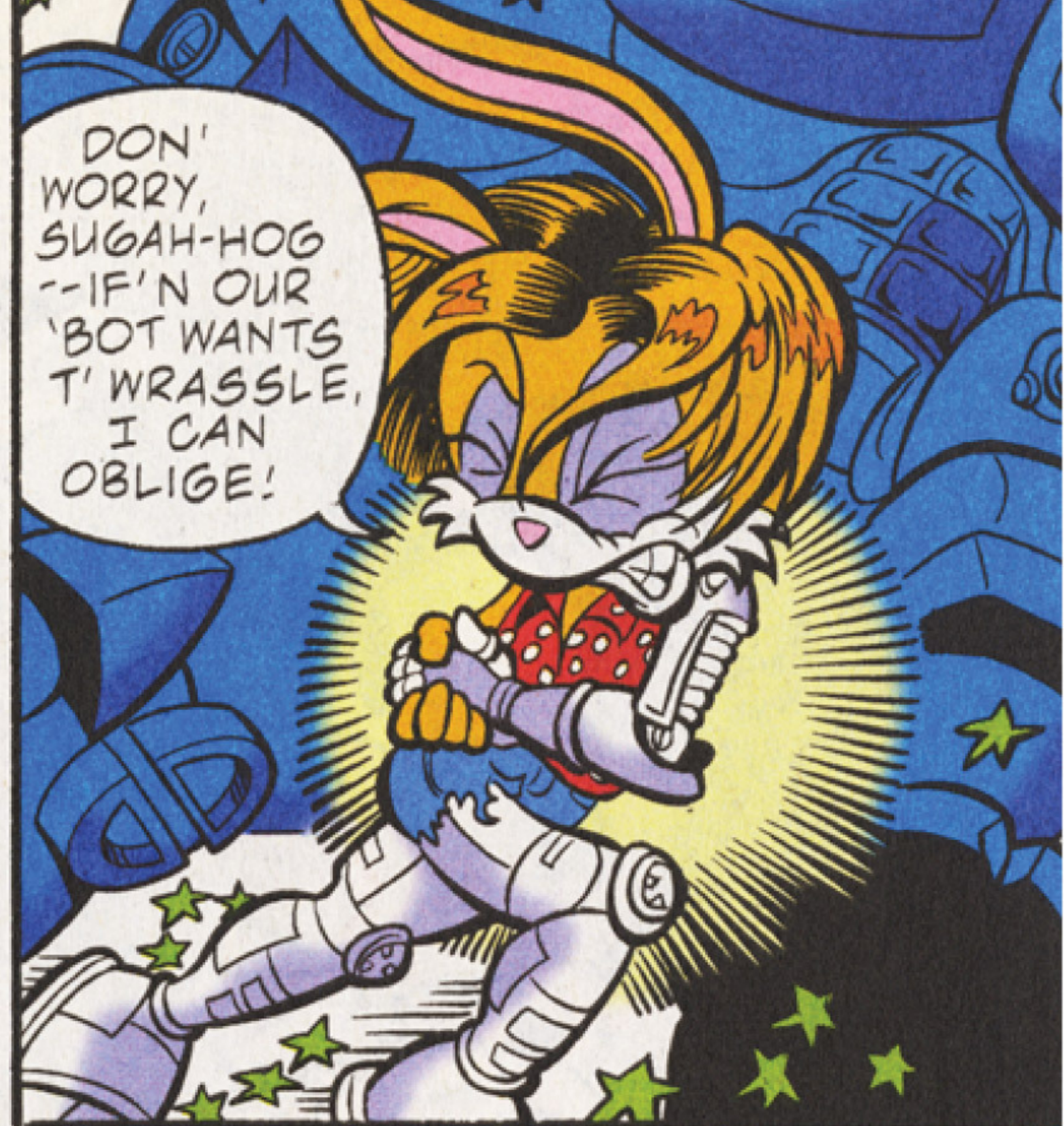
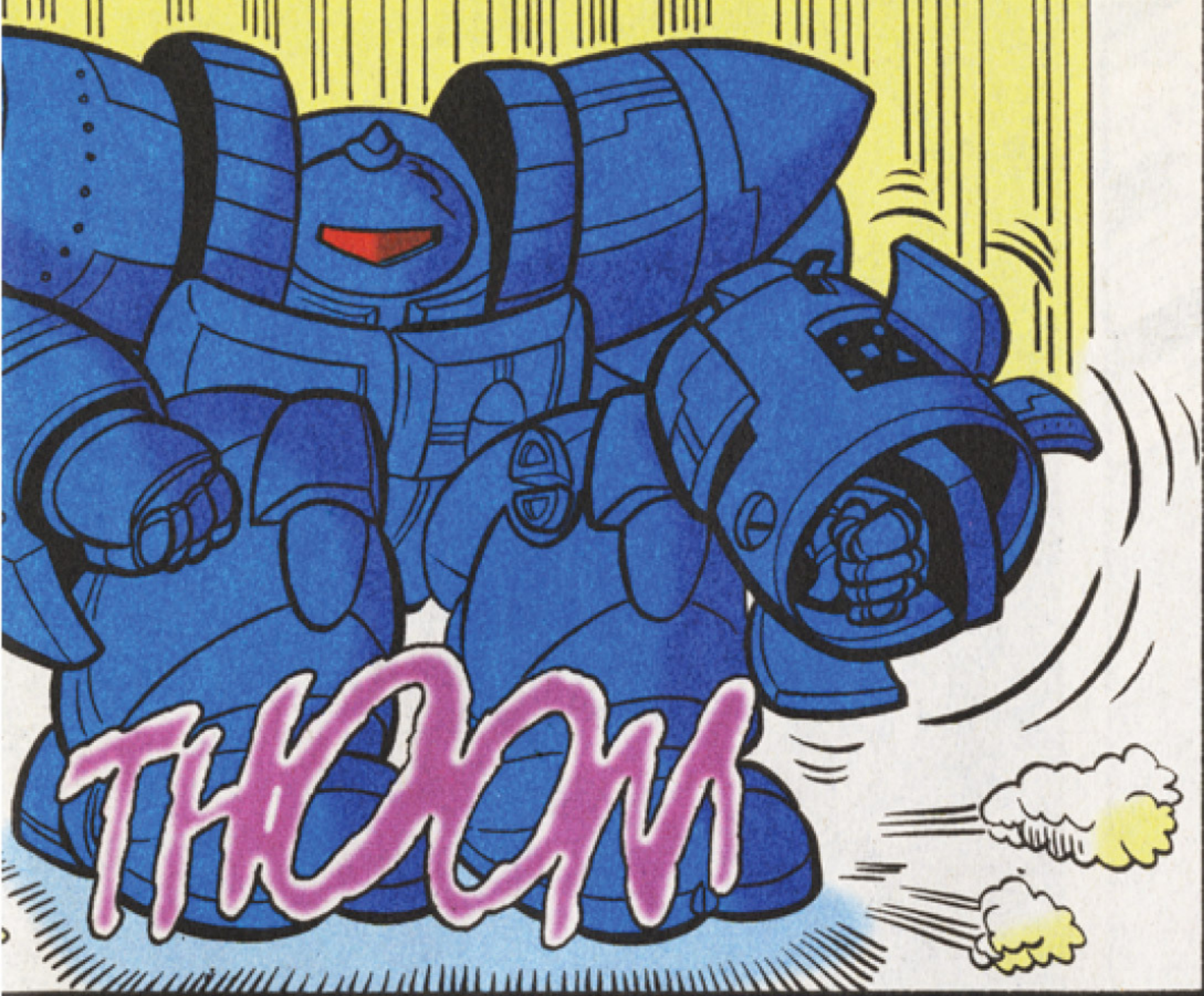
...IT CAN'T BE GOOD!



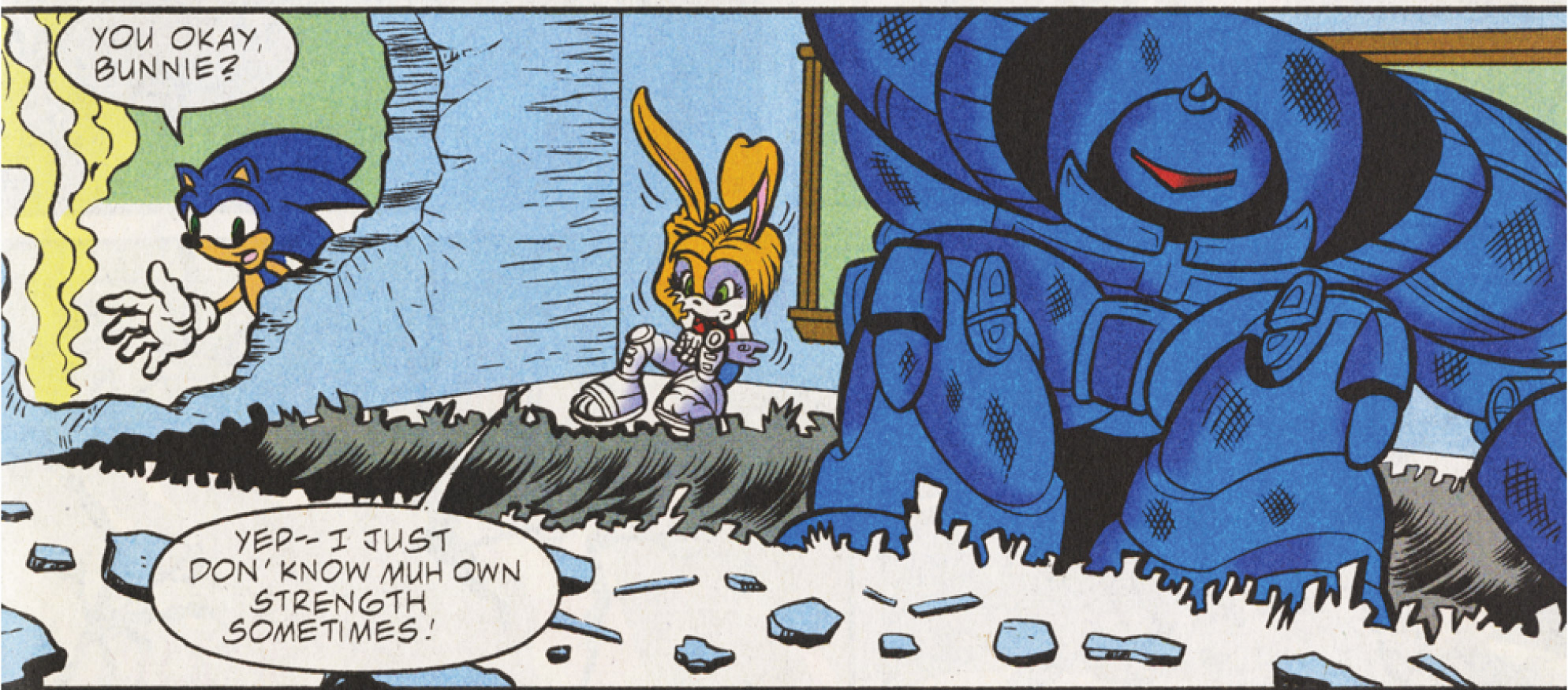
LIKE I WAS SAYIN'... MINA... ROTOR... WILL YOU EXCUSE ME?







DON' WORRY, SUGAH-HOG --IF'N OUR 'BOT WANTS T' WRASSLE, I CAN OBLIGE!



YOU OKAY, BUNNIE?

YEP-- I JUST DON' KNOW MUH OWN STRENGTH SOMETIMES!



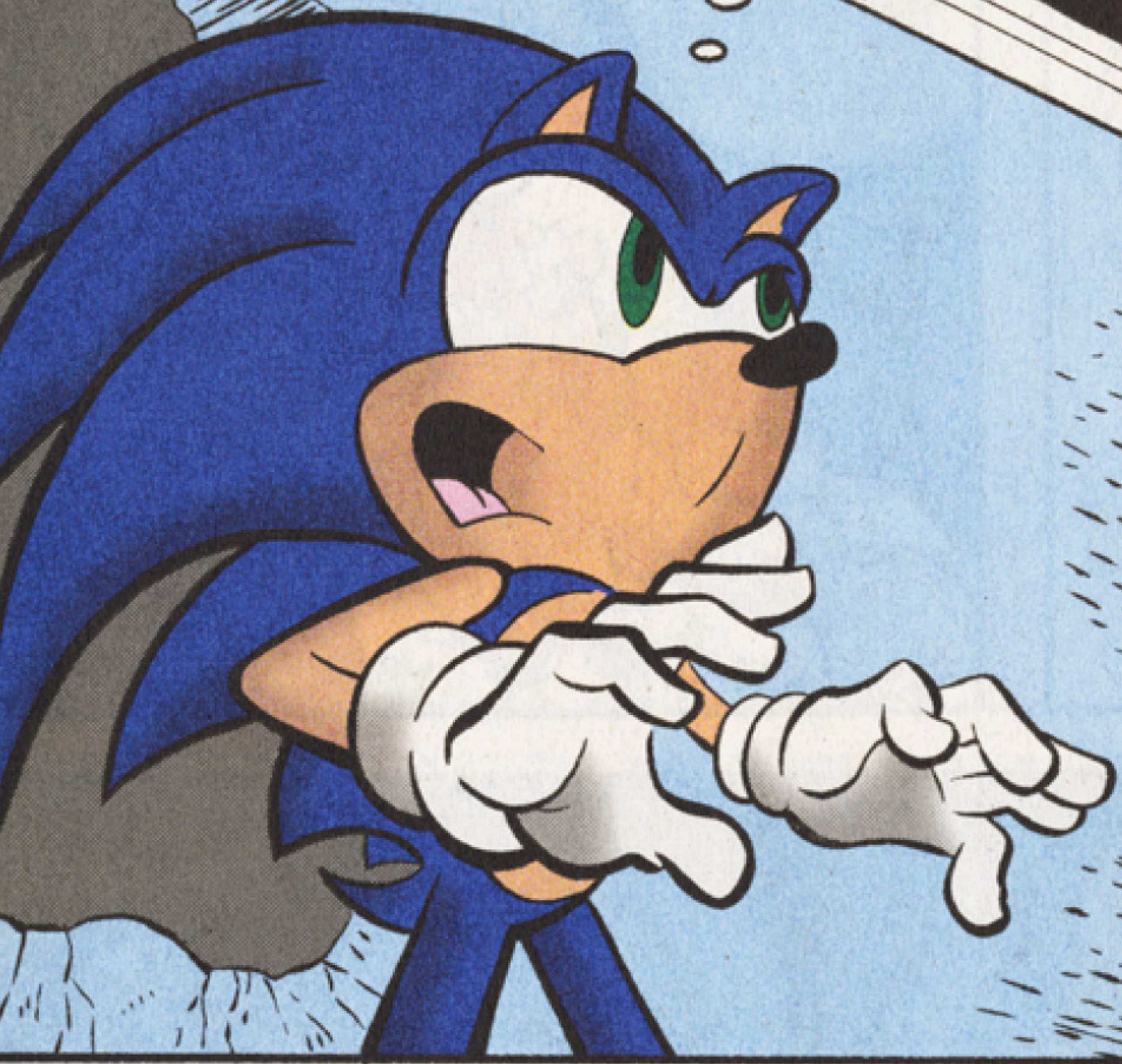
I DUNNO HOW YOU FOUND KNOTHOLE, 'BOT-- BUT NO DOUBT ROBOTNIK'S HOT ON YOUR HEELS.

HE'S PROBABLY GOT TAILS, TOO. WELL THAT DOES IT!



SONNY-BOY, IF YOU GET THIS MESSAGE, IT MEANS THIS SHADOW-BOT'S FOUND YOU. NOW LISTEN CAREFULLY...

THAT VOICE--IT'S UNCLE CHUCK!
HE MUST'VE REPROGRAMMED THE 'BOT
TO COME HERE WITH A MESSAGE FOR
ME, BUT THAT MEANS--



THE SWORD OF ACORNS DOES
INDEED RESTORE FREE WILL, BUT
ROBOTNIK NO LONGER HAS IT IN
HIS POSSESSION.

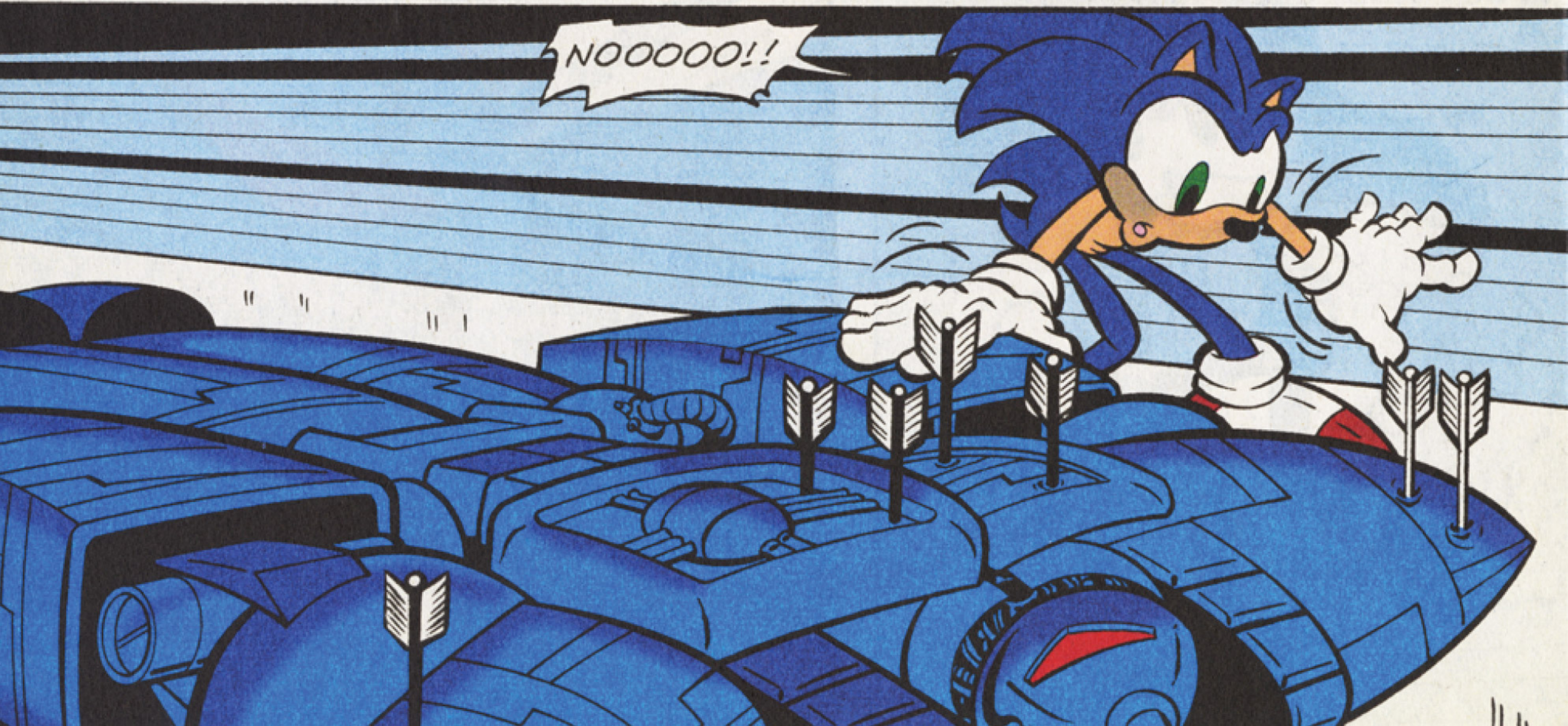


THIS'S TOO
WEIRD!

ARACHNIS
HAS STOLEN
IT AND--

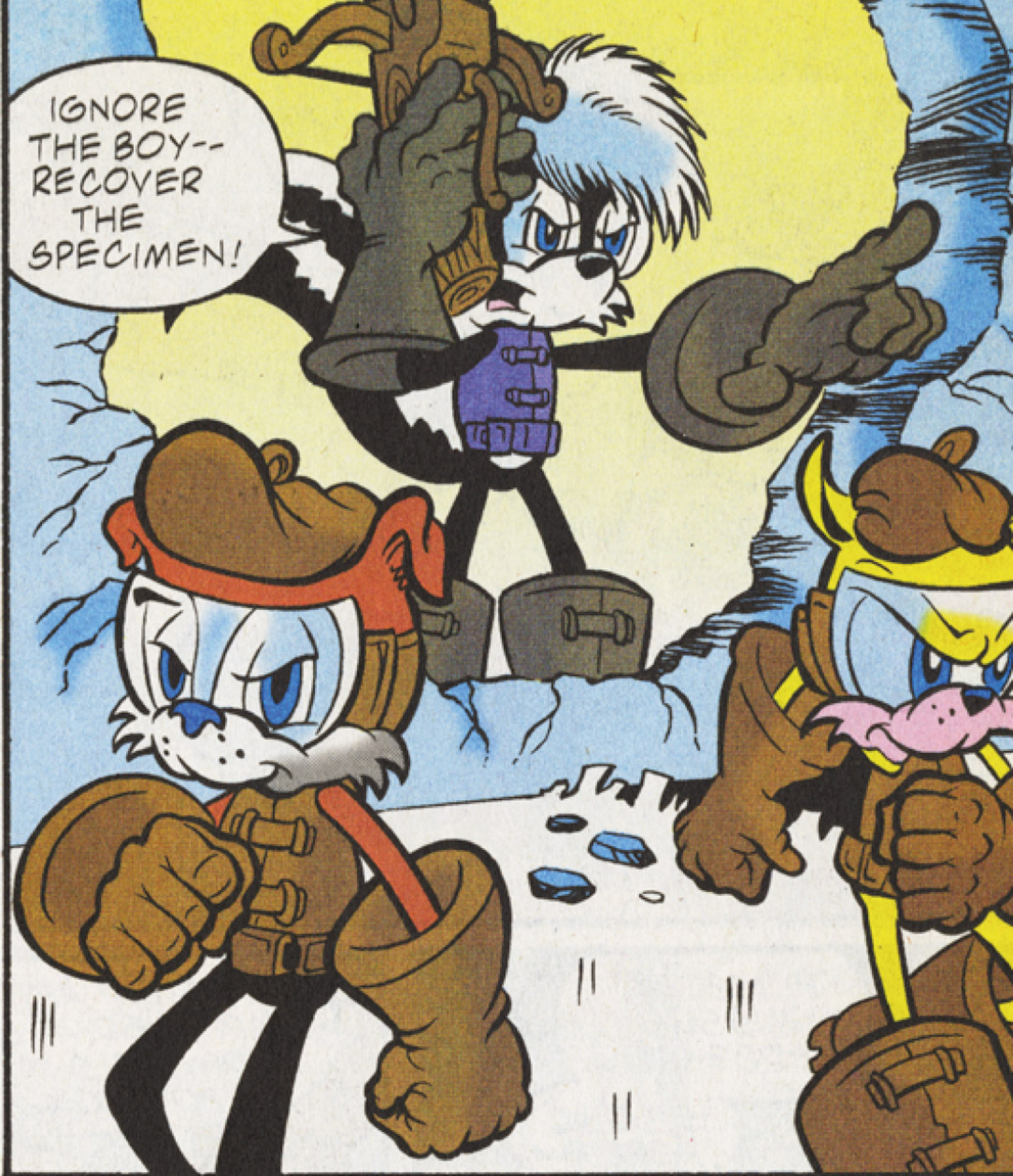


NOOOOO!!

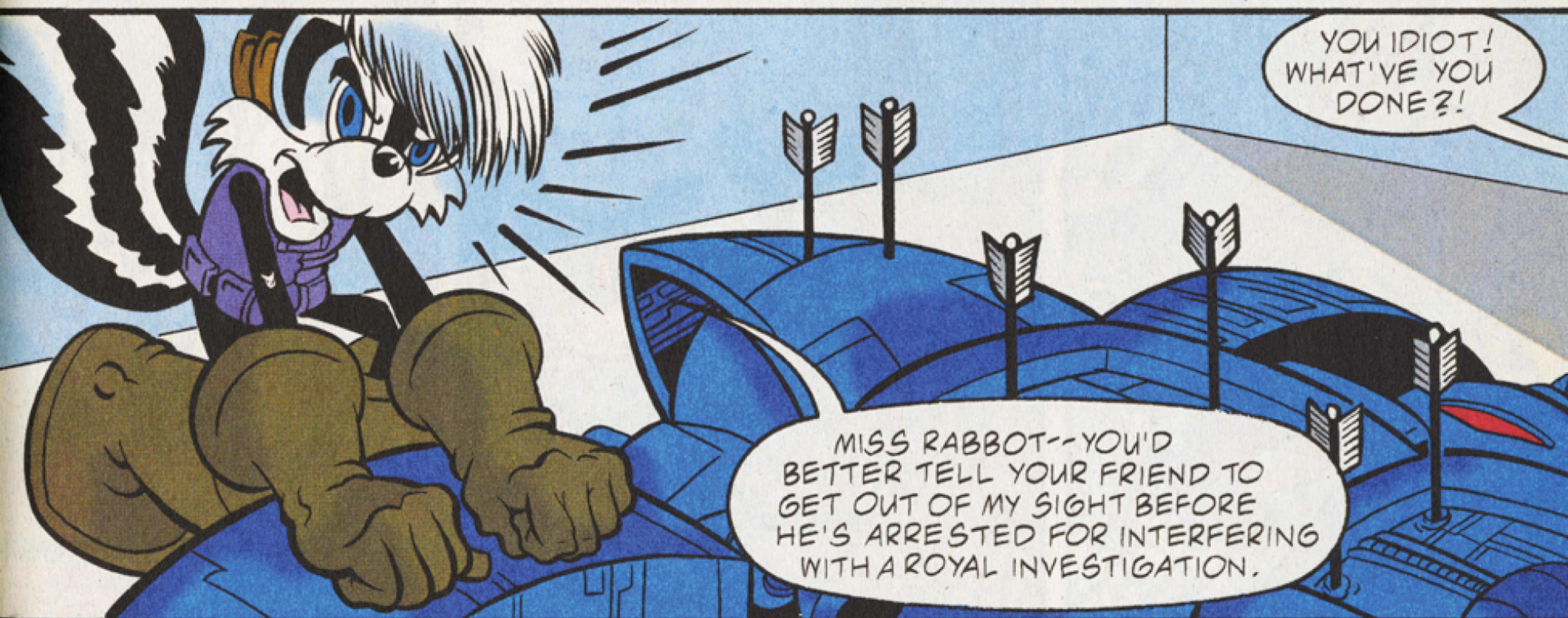




YOU!



IGNORE THE BOY--
RECOVER THE SPECIMEN!

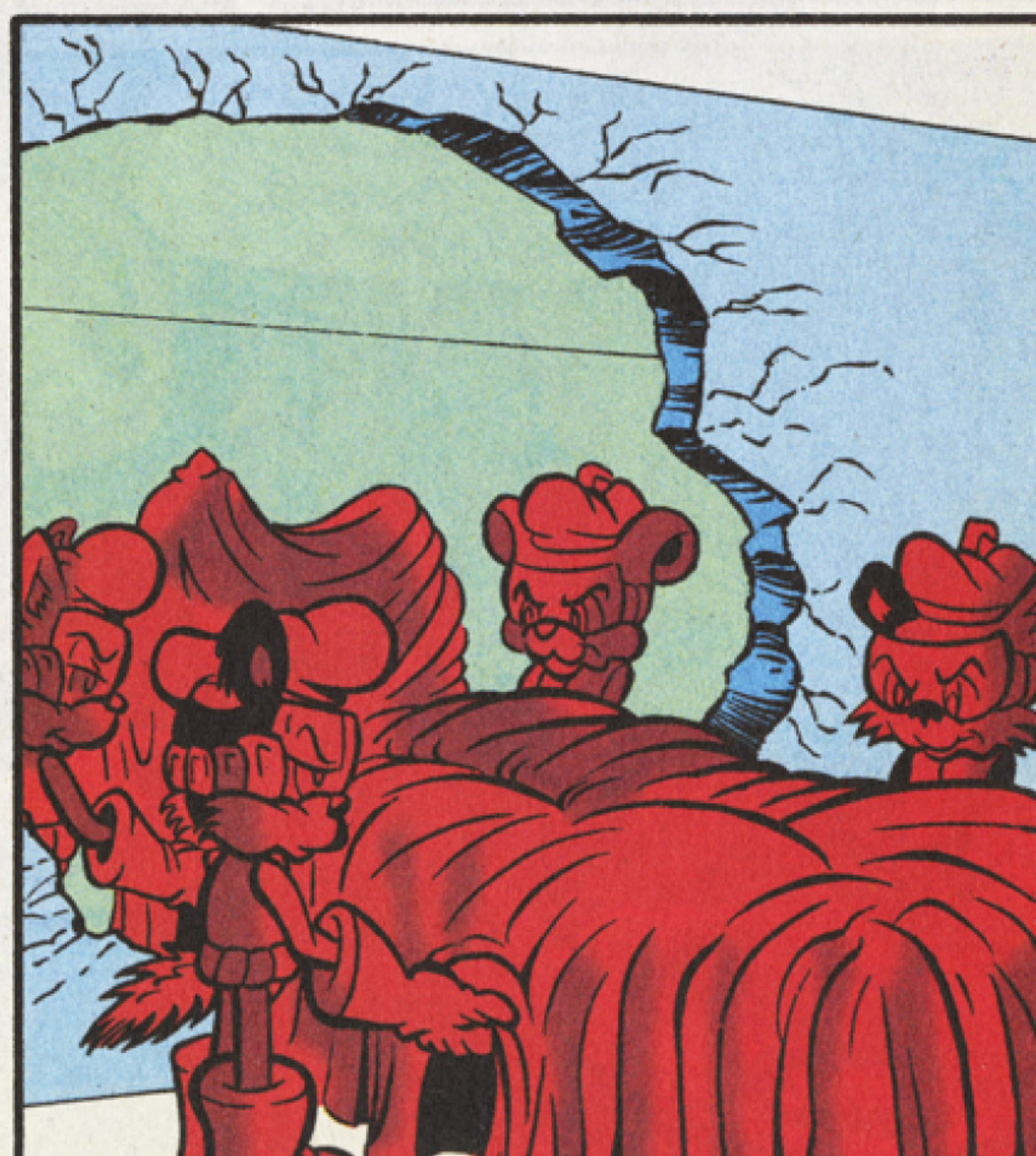


YOU IDIOT!
WHAT'VE YOU
DONE?!

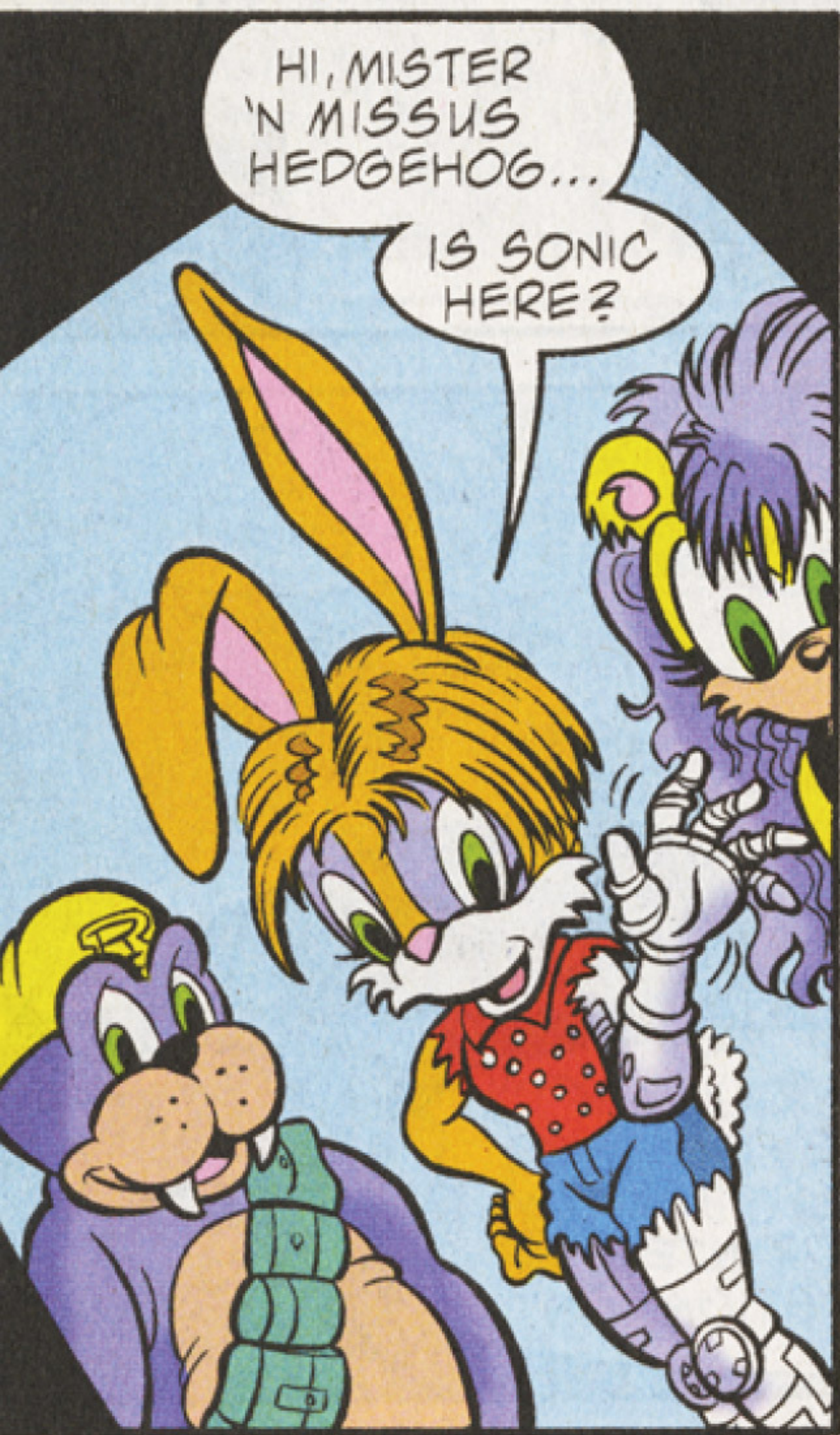
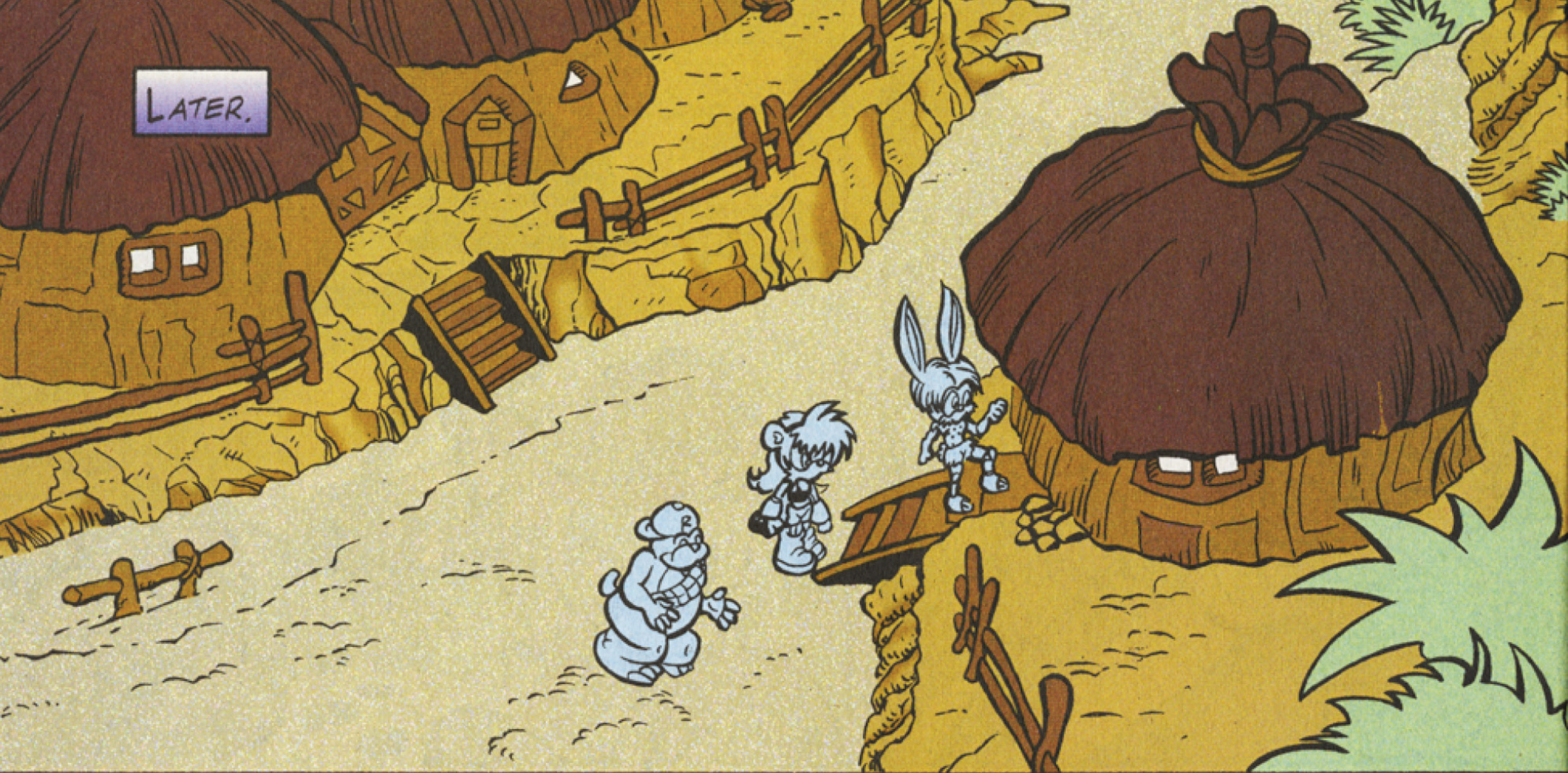
MISS RABBOT-- YOU'D
BETTER TELL YOUR FRIEND TO
GET OUT OF MY SIGHT BEFORE
HE'S ARRESTED FOR INTERFERING
WITH A ROYAL INVESTIGATION.



NO, SONIC
...LEAVE IT
ALONE.
PLEASE.



LATER.



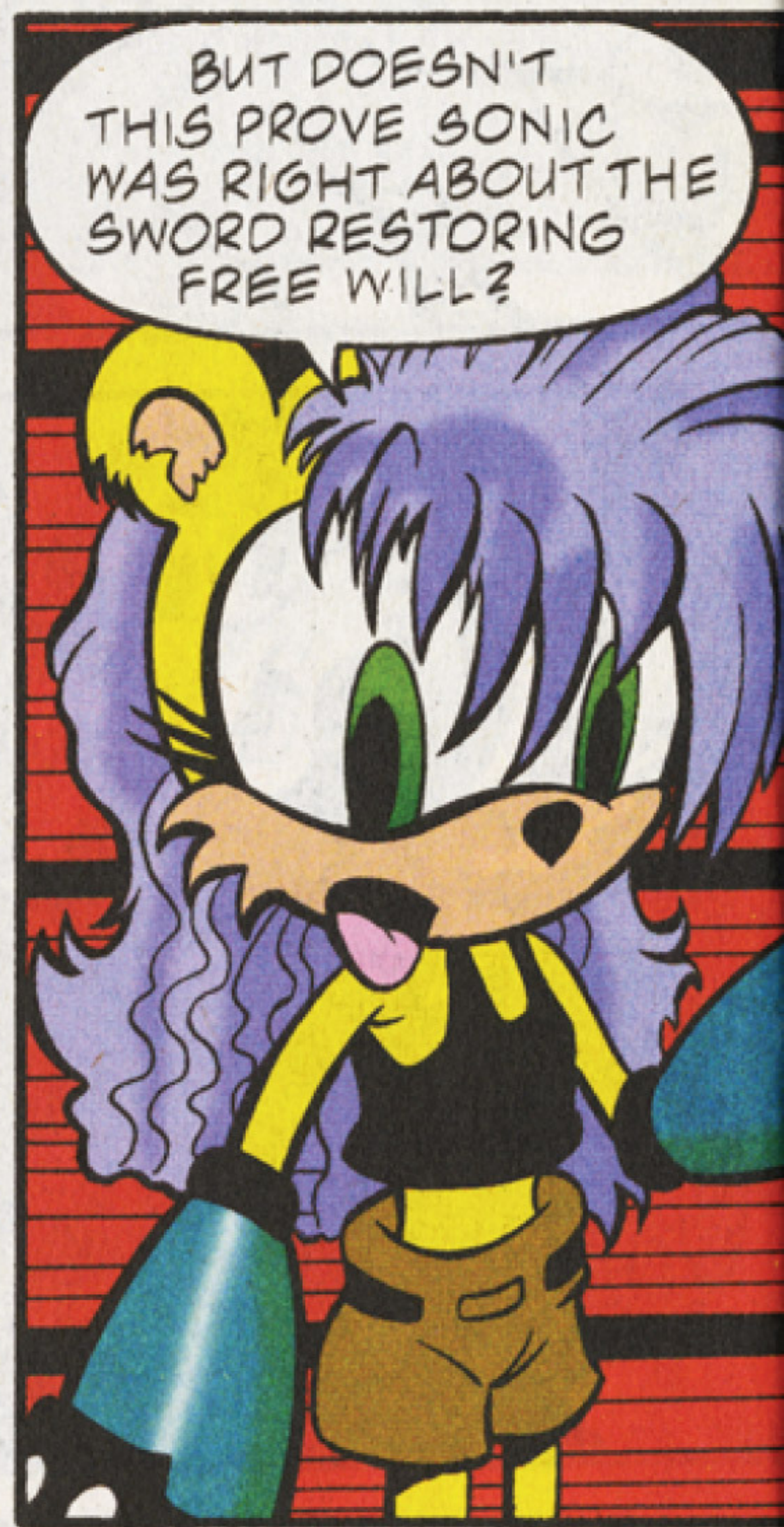
HI, MISTER 'N MISSUS HEDGEHOG...

IS SONIC HERE?

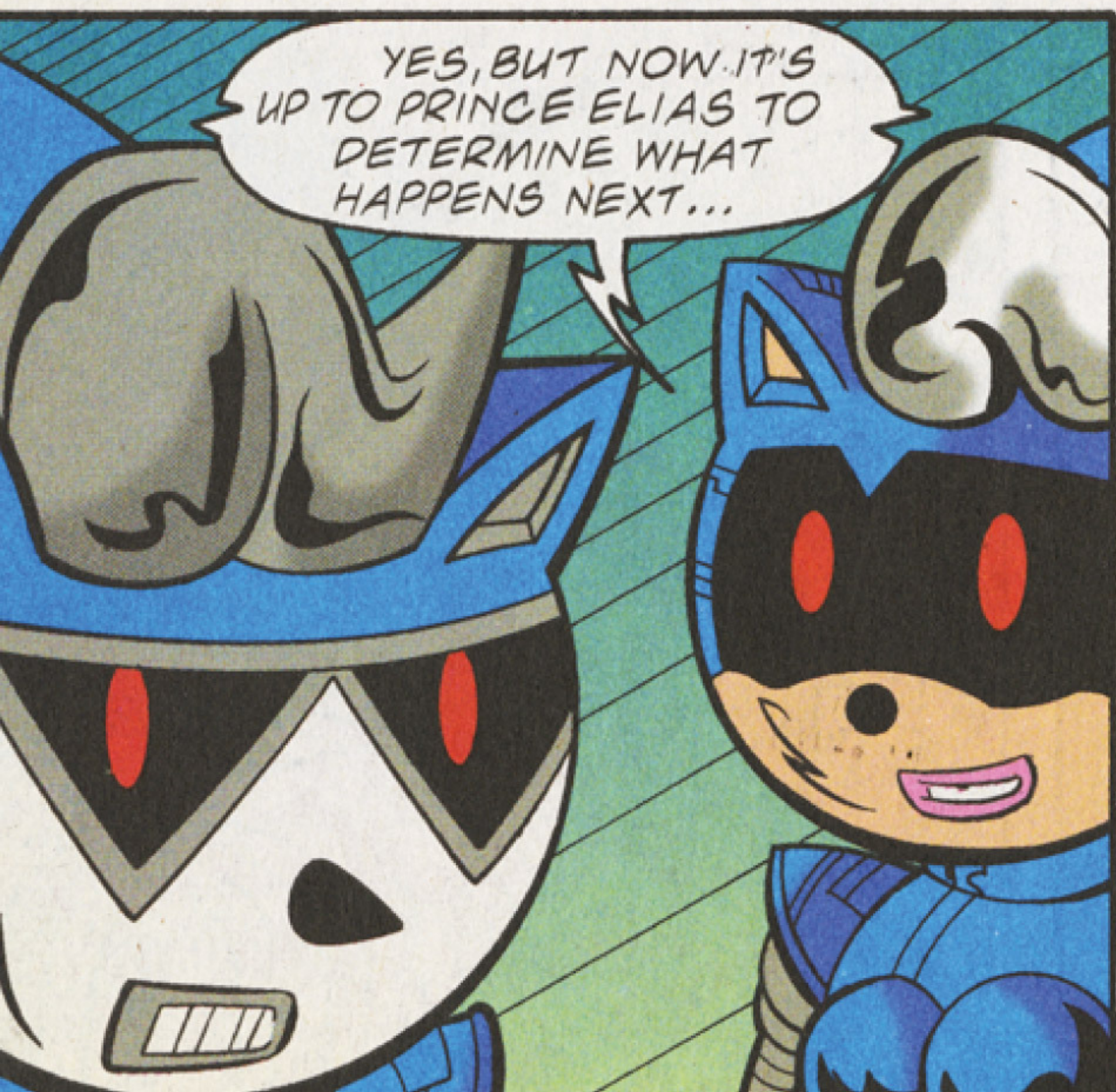


YES, BUT AFTER WHAT HAPPENED AT SCHOOL TODAY, HE'S IN NO MOOD FOR COMPANY.

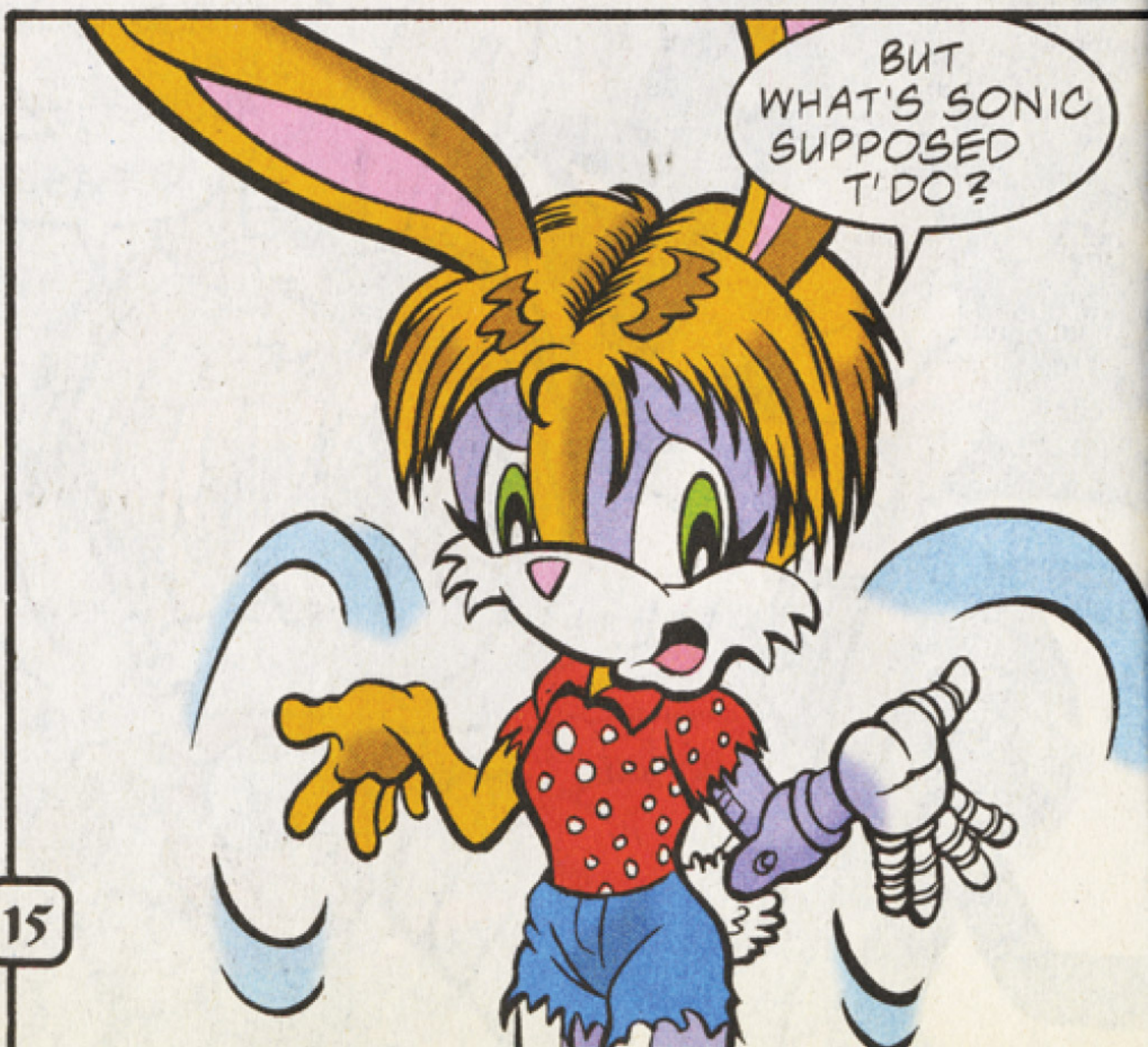
HE DIDN'T EVEN COME OUT OF HIS ROOM FOR 'CHILI-DOGS!



BUT DOESN'T THIS PROVE SONIC WAS RIGHT ABOUT THE SWORD RESTORING FREE WILL?

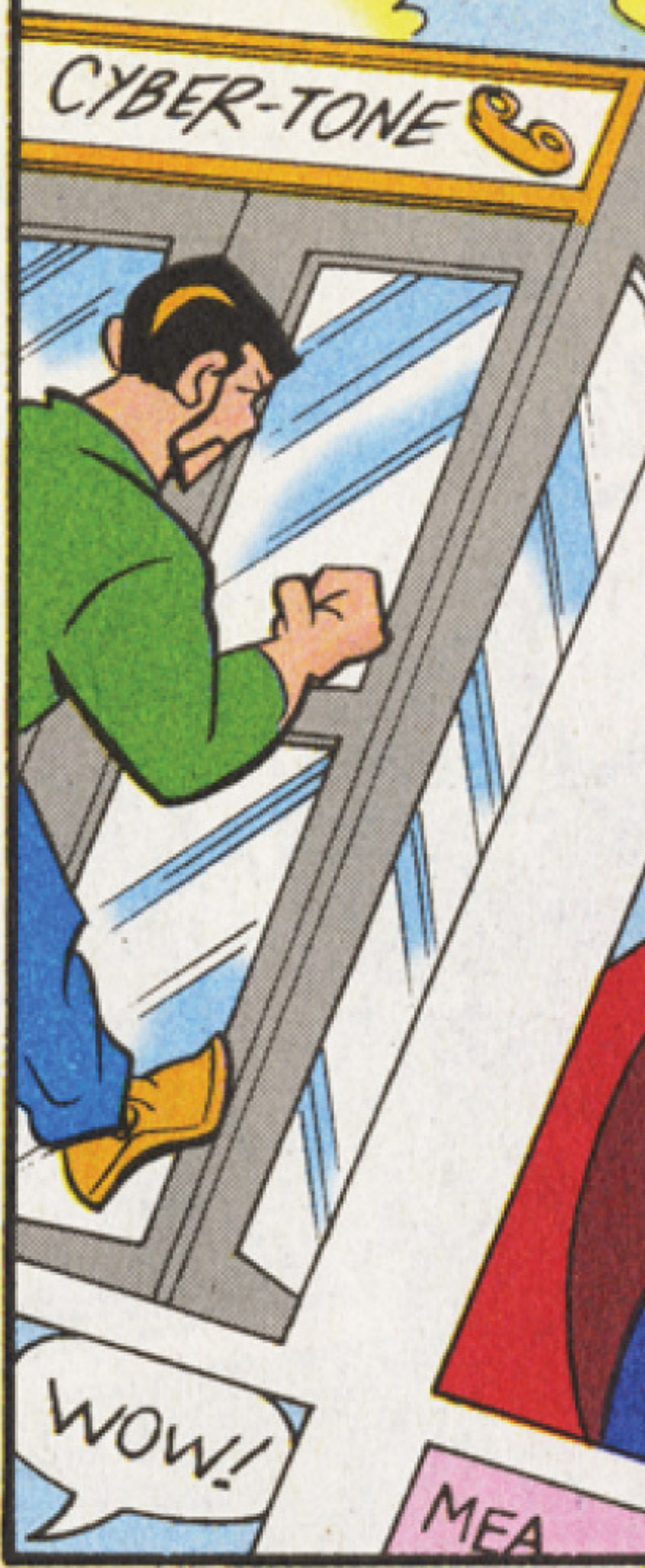
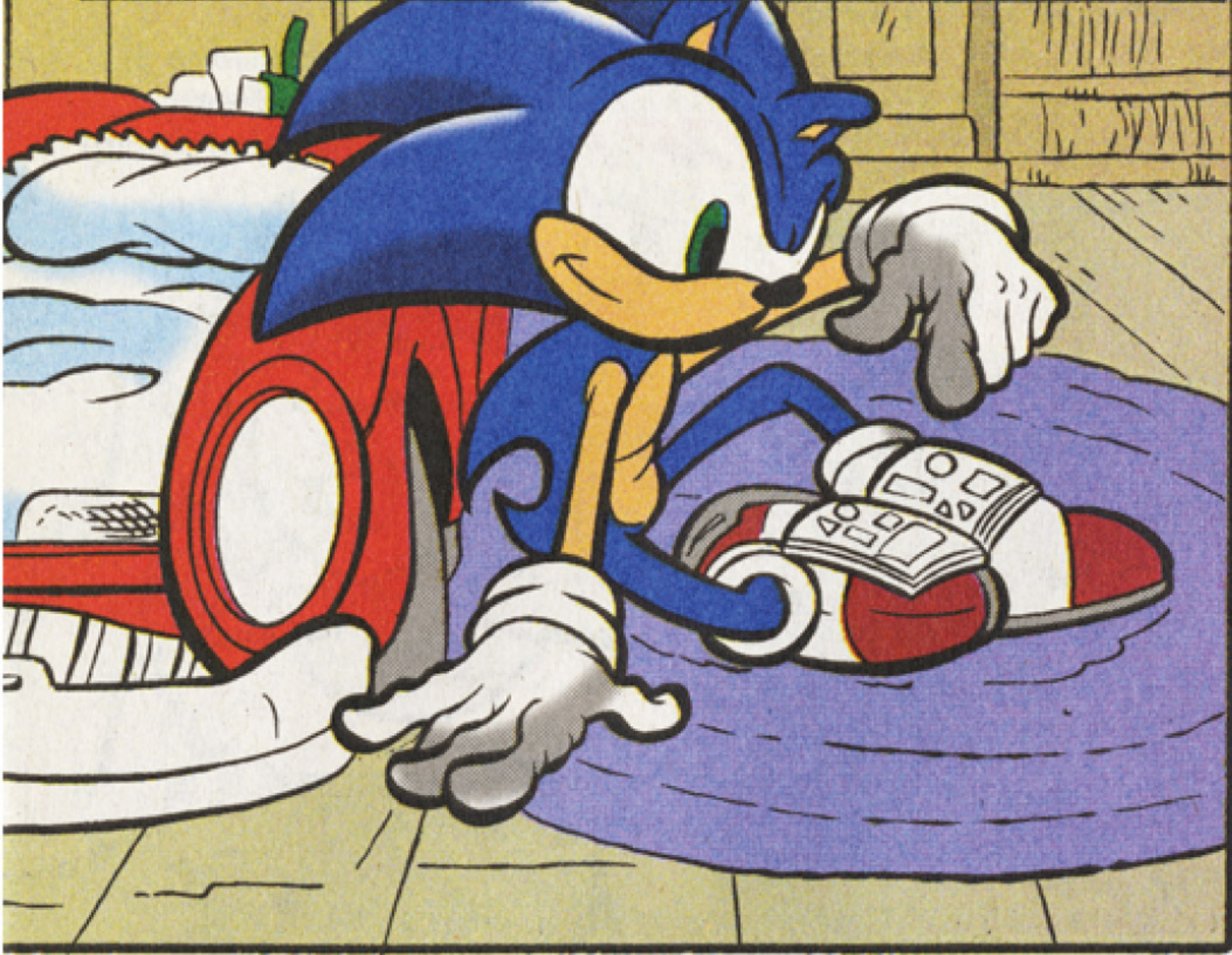


YES, BUT NOW IT'S UP TO PRINCE ELIAS TO DETERMINE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT...

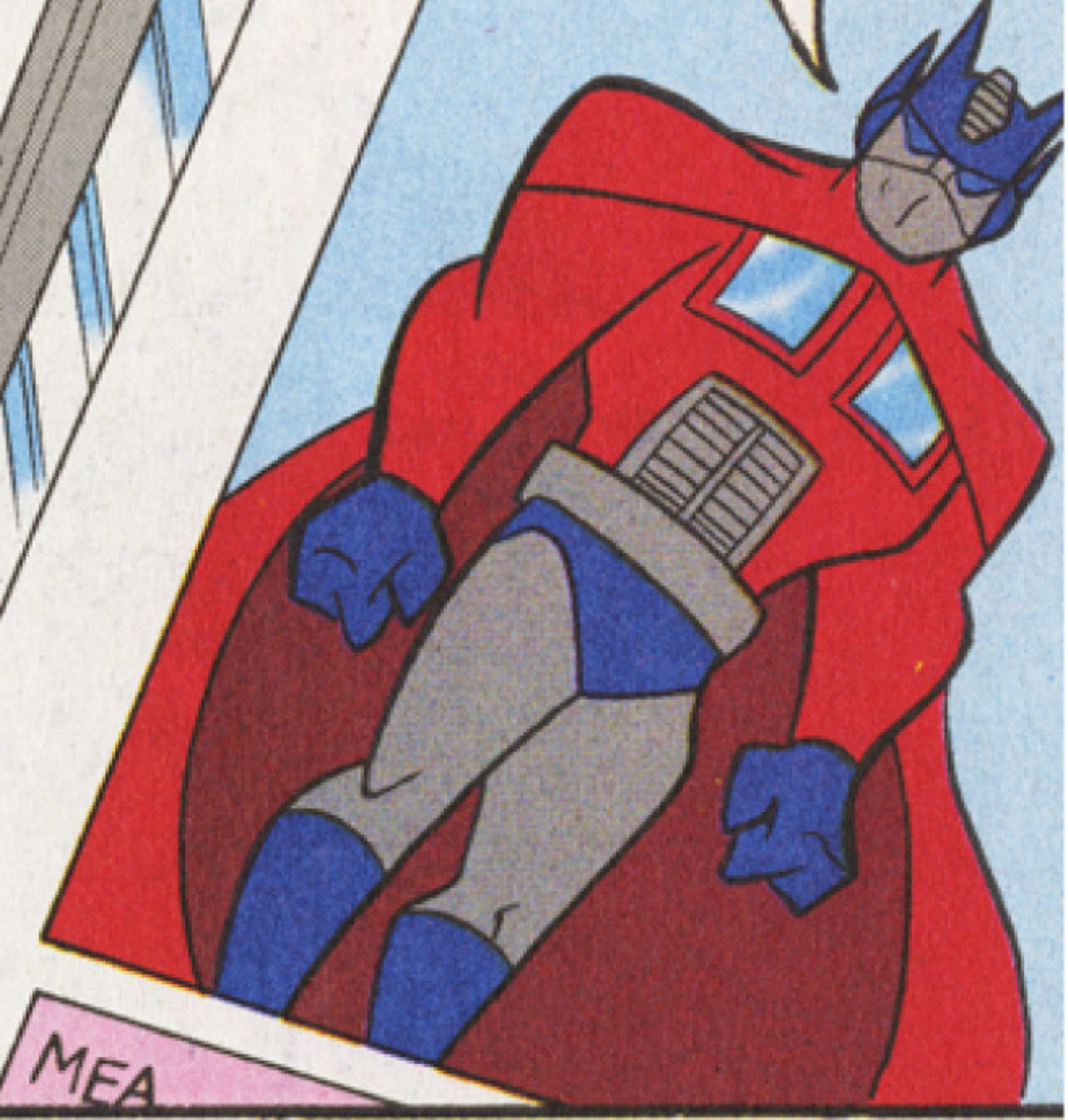


BUT WHAT'S SONIC SUPPOSED T'DO?

"IT'S PROBABLY BETTER FOR HIM TO FOCUS HIS ATTENTION ON OTHER THINGS FOR NOW..."

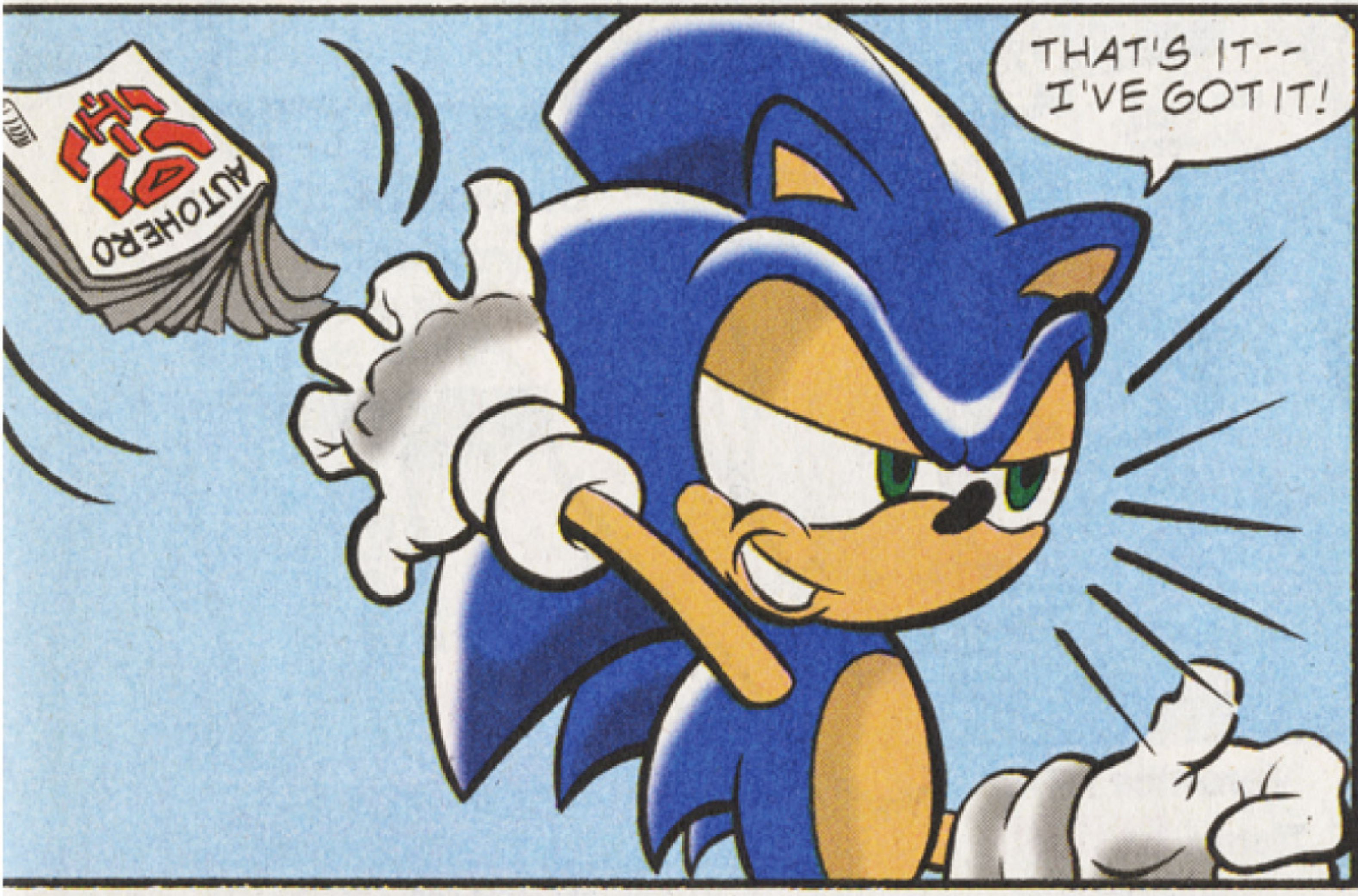


ROLL OUT!

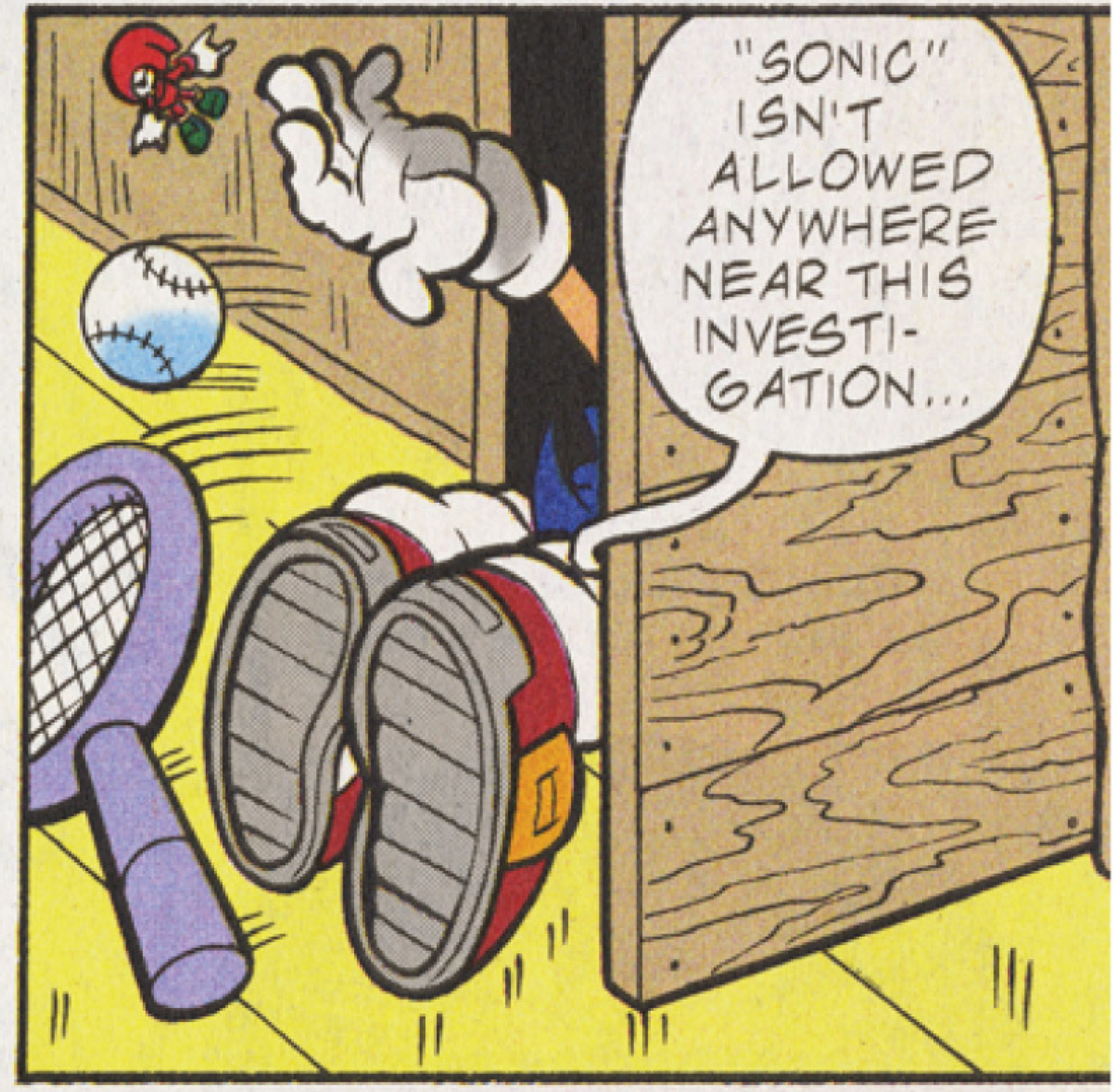


WOW!

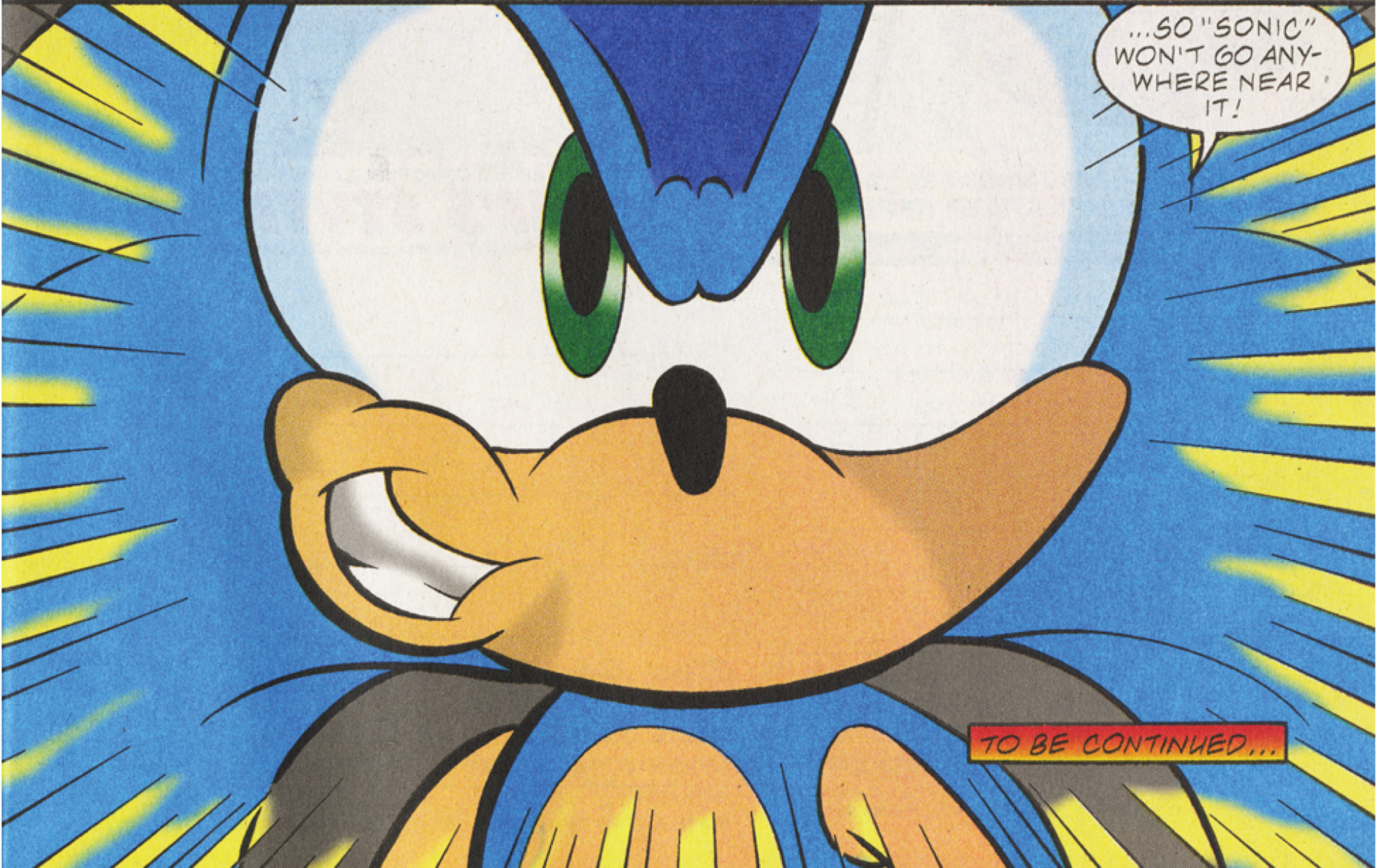
MEA



THAT'S IT-- I'VE GOT IT!



"SONIC" ISN'T ALLOWED ANYWHERE NEAR THIS INVESTIGATION...



...SO "SONIC" WON'T GO ANYWHERE NEAR IT!

TO BE CONTINUED...

Born to the most noble of Echidna houses, the latest to continue the family heritage and responsibility as Guardian of The Floating Island, defender of all against the forces of evil from the world beyond as well as those who would threaten from within!

ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA!

HE WAS BORN TO BE NONE OTHER THAN THE GUARDIAN OF THE FLOATING ISLAND, BUT NOW

KNUCKLES™

IS EVOLVING INTO SOMETHING MORE--MUCH MORE--

--AND NO ONE YET KNOWS WHAT THAT COULD MEAN FOR EVERYONE WHO DWELLS ON THE PLANET MOBIUS!

MY NEPHEW LIES BEFORE ME UNCONSCIOUS, AT HAIR--

--AND ALL BECAUSE OF YOU!

WHAT HAVE YOU TO SAY FOR YOURSELF?

THE BLAME IS MINE, BUT THAT DOESN'T DENY ONE PERTINENT FACT--

YOUNG MILES MAY BE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN SAVE MY GREAT-GRANDSON!

The Chosen One

ANOTHER SEGA-INSPIRED STORY BY
KEN PENDERS (WRITER & INKER) RON LIM (PENCILLER) V. WILLIAMS (LETTERER)
FRANK GAGLIARDO (COLORIST) JUSTIN GABRIE (EDITOR)



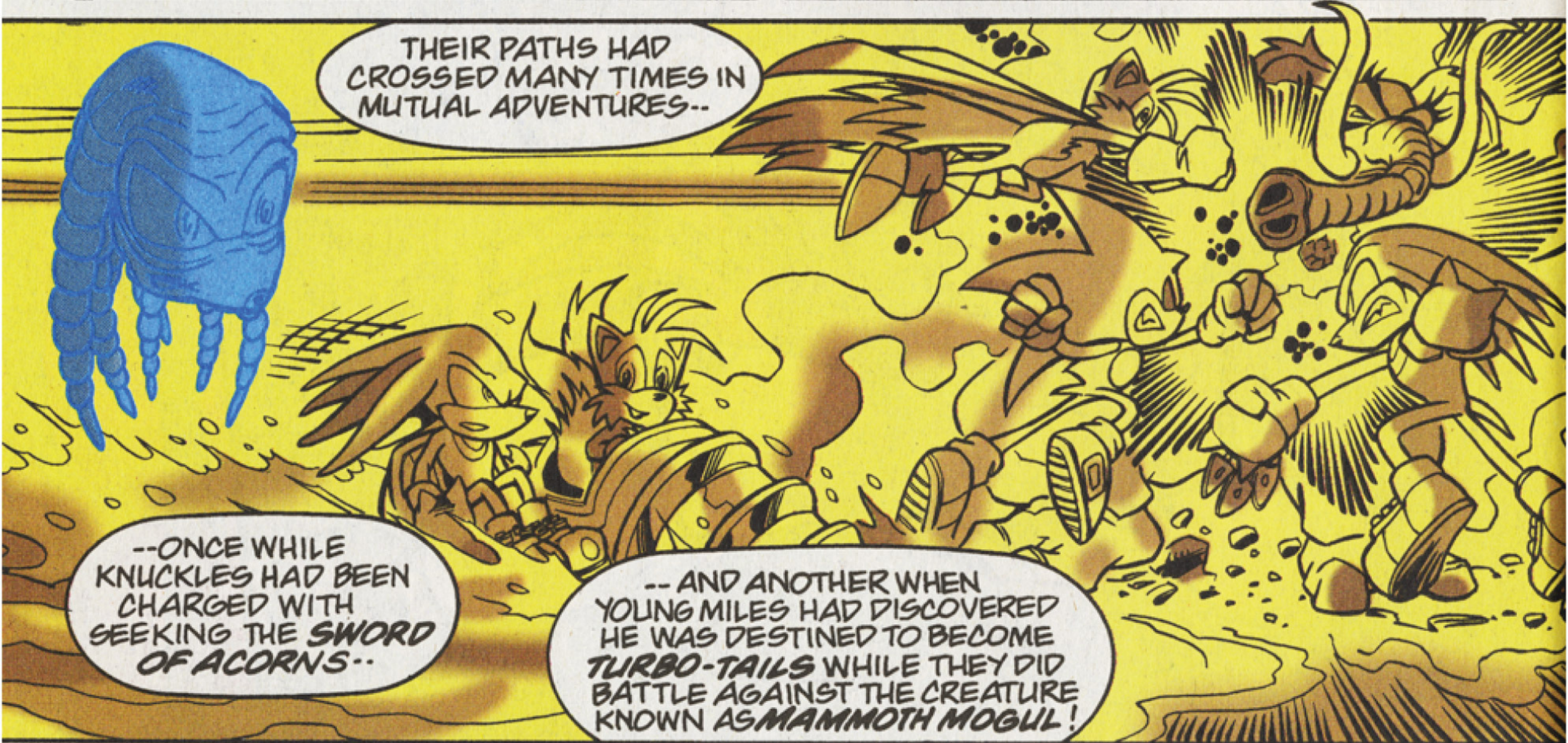
YOU MEAN **KNUCKLES**?
WHAT HAS HE TO DO WITH
ANY OF THIS?

HOW
IS HE
CONNECTED
WITH
MILES?



THERE ARE
BUT VERY FEW
THAT **KNUCKLES**
BEFRIENDS--

--AND
MILES HAPPENS
TO BE ONE OF
THEM!



THEIR PATHS HAD
CROSSED MANY TIMES IN
MUTUAL ADVENTURES--

--ONCE WHILE
KNUCKLES HAD BEEN
CHARGED WITH
SEEKING THE **SWORD**
OF **ACORNS**--

-- AND ANOTHER WHEN
YOUNG MILES HAD DISCOVERED
HE WAS DESTINED TO BECOME
TURBO-TAILS WHILE THEY DID
BATTLE AGAINST THE CREATURE
KNOWN AS **MAMMOTH MOGUL**!



MY GREAT-GRANDSON IS
SUFFERING BADLY--

--HIS DEVELOPMENT
ADVANCED THROUGH
ARTIFICIAL
MEANS--

-- ALONG
WITH THE
SEVERING OF
ALL **FAMILY**
TIES THROUGH
NEFARIOUS
MEANS!



HE IS IN NEED OF
HELP--AND A
FRIEND!

HOWEVER,
THE **DANGER** IS
GREATER THAN I
ANTICIPATED--

--AND
YOUNG **MILES**
MAY BE OUR ONLY
SALVATION!

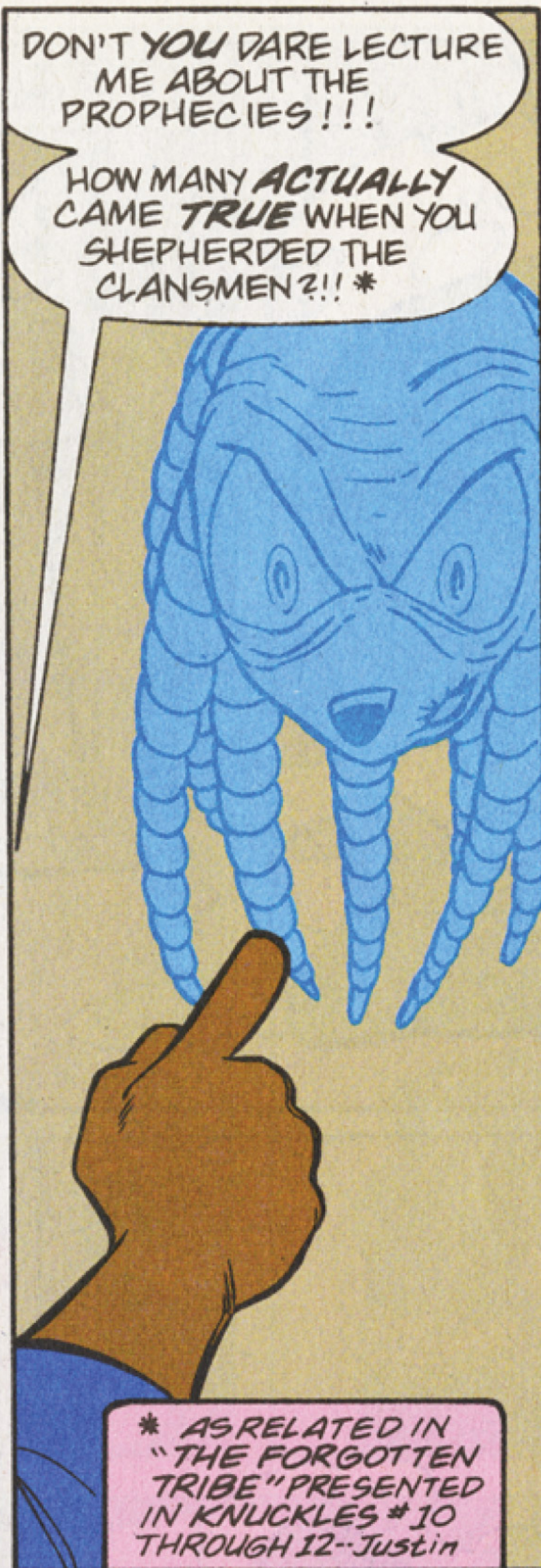
YOU DON'T
MEAN--?!



OUT OF THE QUESTION!!!

I'VE ALREADY LOST A **BROTHER!** I WON'T LOSE HIS **ONLY SON** AS WELL!

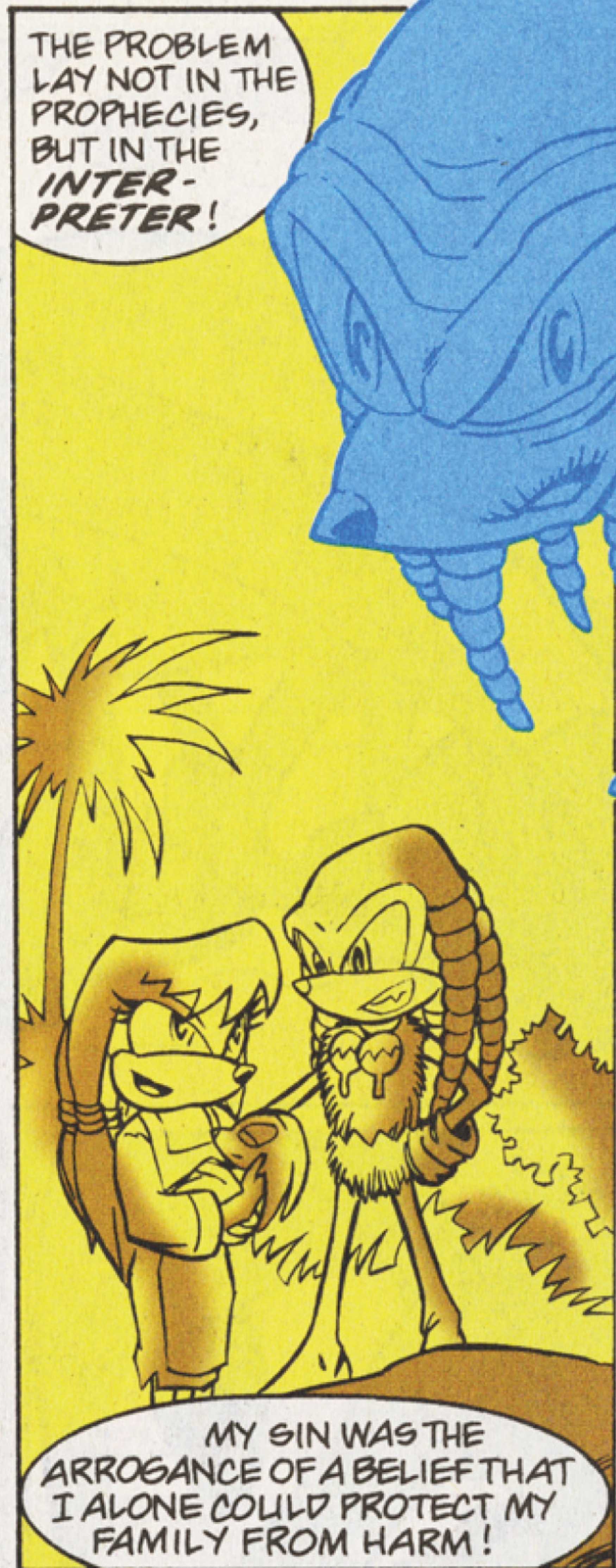
BUT THE **PROPHECIES--!**



DON'T YOU DARE LECTURE ME ABOUT THE **PROPHECIES!!!**

HOW MANY **ACTUALLY** CAME **TRUE** WHEN YOU **SHEPHERDED** THE **CLANSMEN?!! ***

** AS RELATED IN "THE FORGOTTEN TRIBE" PRESENTED IN KNUCKLES #10 THROUGH 12--Justin*



THE PROBLEM LAY NOT IN THE **PROPHECIES,** BUT IN THE **INTER-PRATER!**

MY SIN WAS THE **ARROGANCE** OF A BELIEF THAT I ALONE COULD PROTECT MY **FAMILY** FROM HARM!



HAD I UNDERSTOOD WHAT PART **FREE WILL** PLAYS--

FAATHERRR...

ATHAIR!!

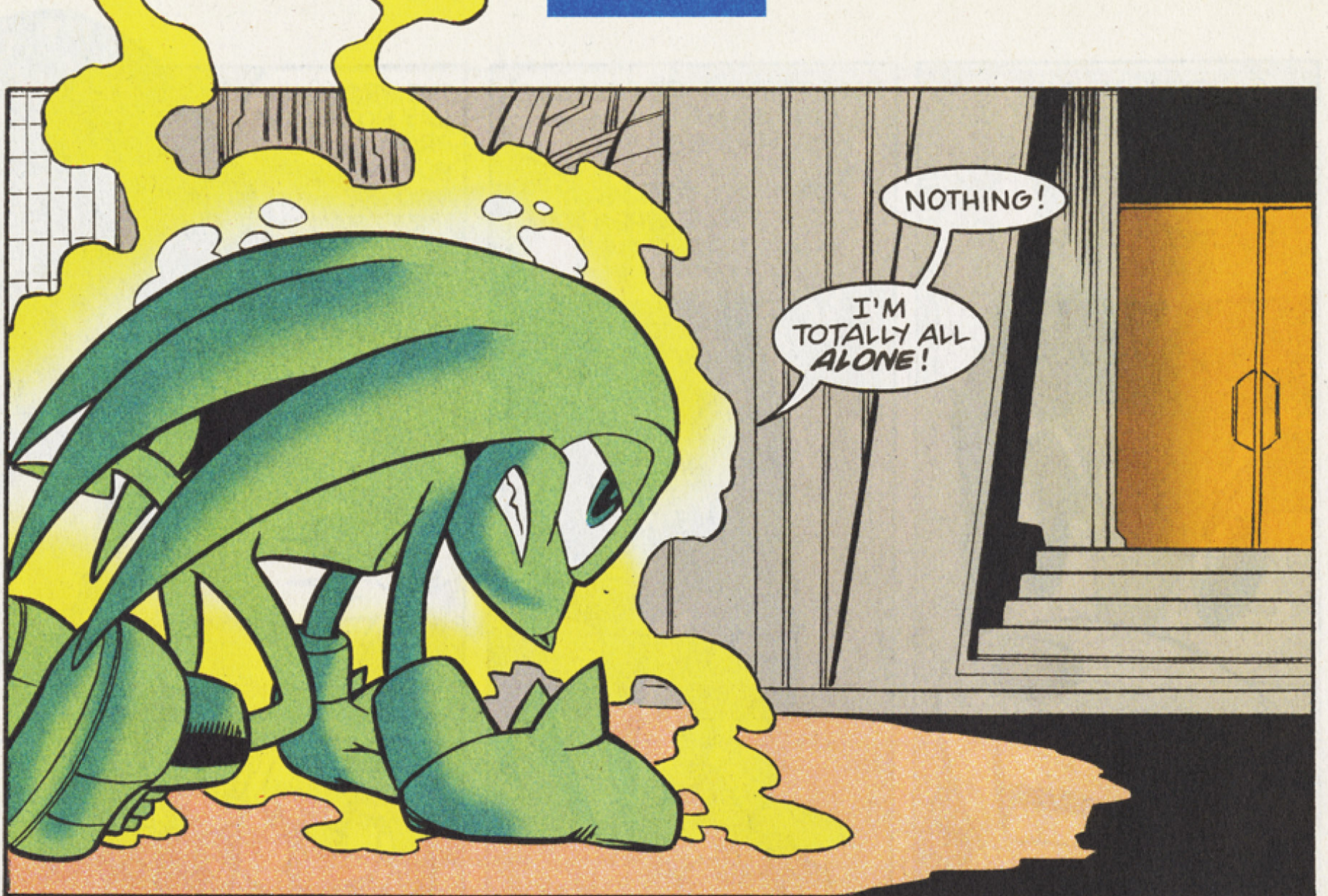
DID YOU **HEAR?!!**



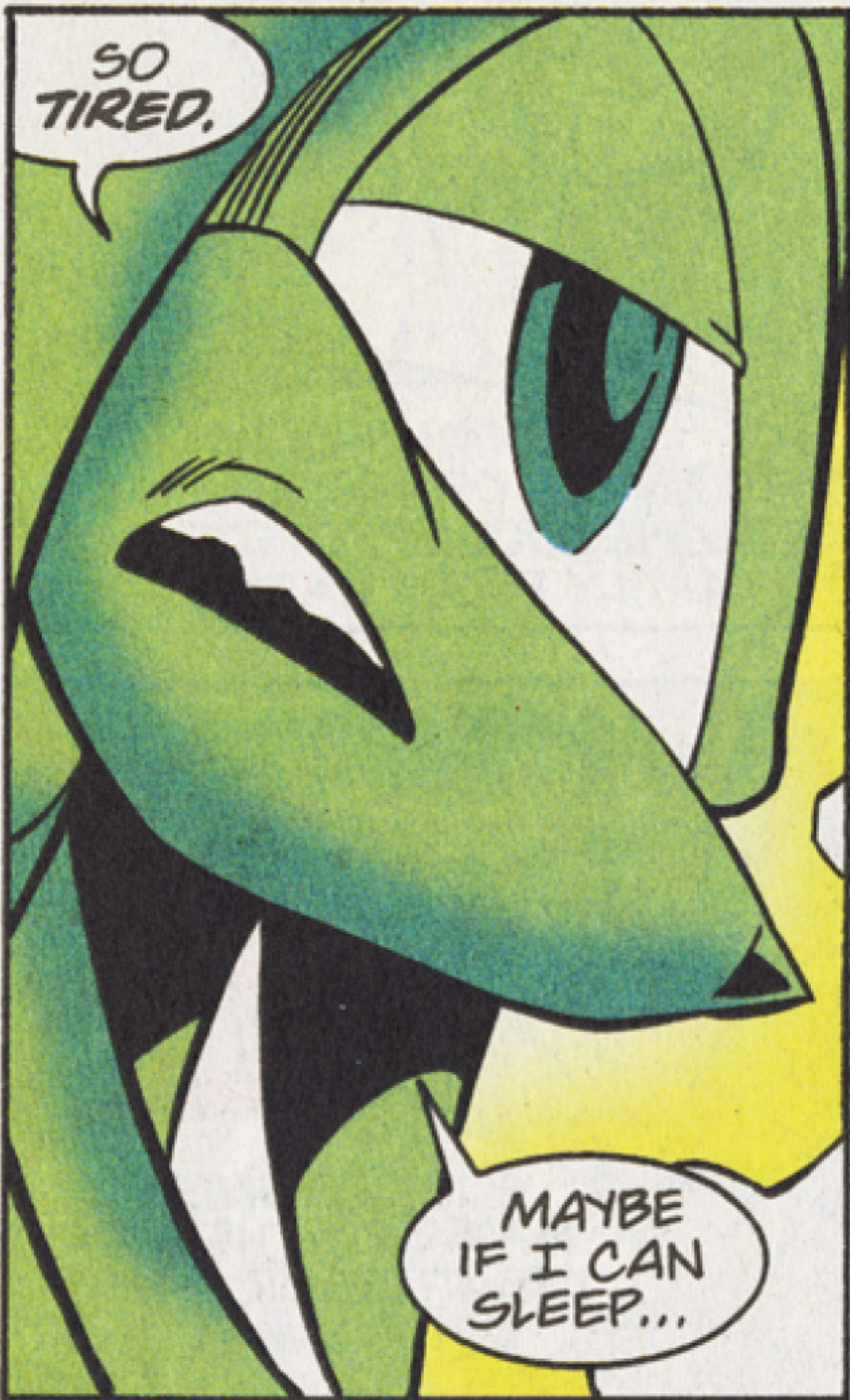
MOTHERRR...
JULE-SUUU...

SUCH ANGLISH!!! WHERE IS THE POOR CREATURE CRYING OUT FROM?!!

ANYONE...?

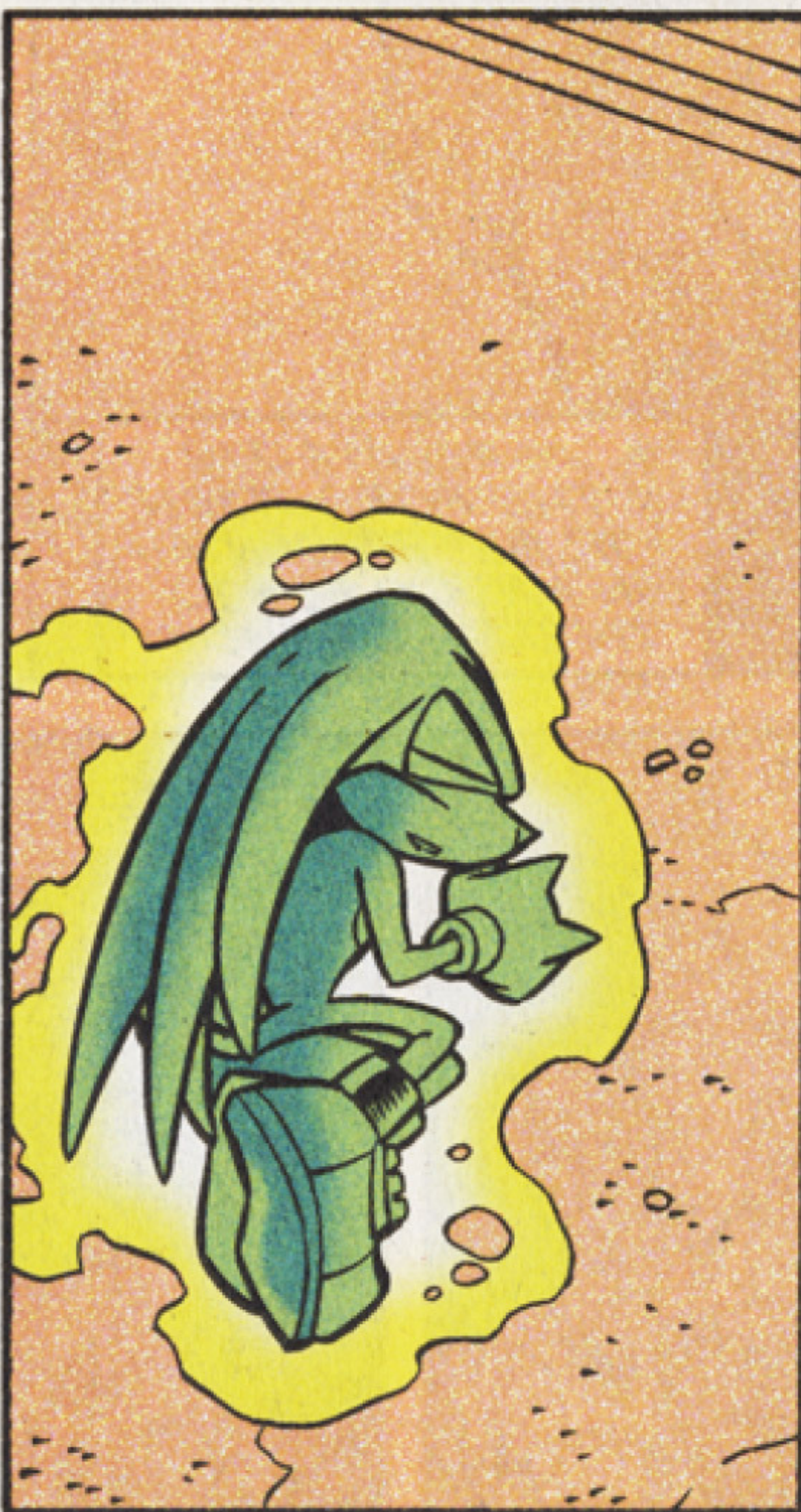


NOTHING!
I'M TOTALLY ALL ALONE!

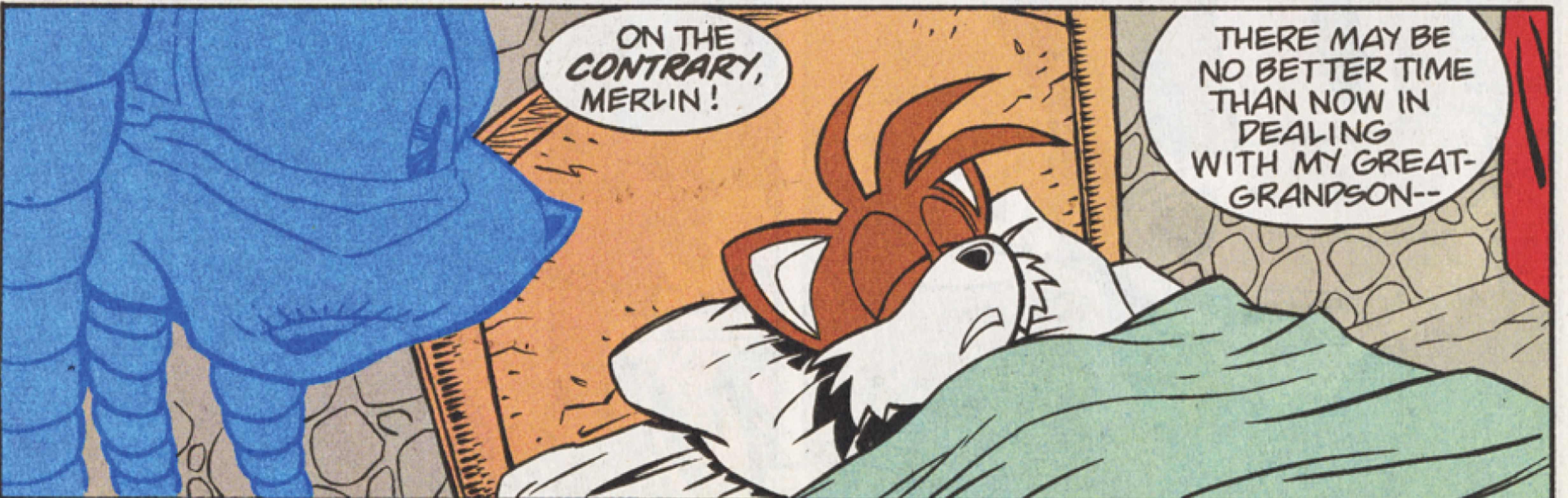


SO TIRED.

MAYBE IF I CAN SLEEP...

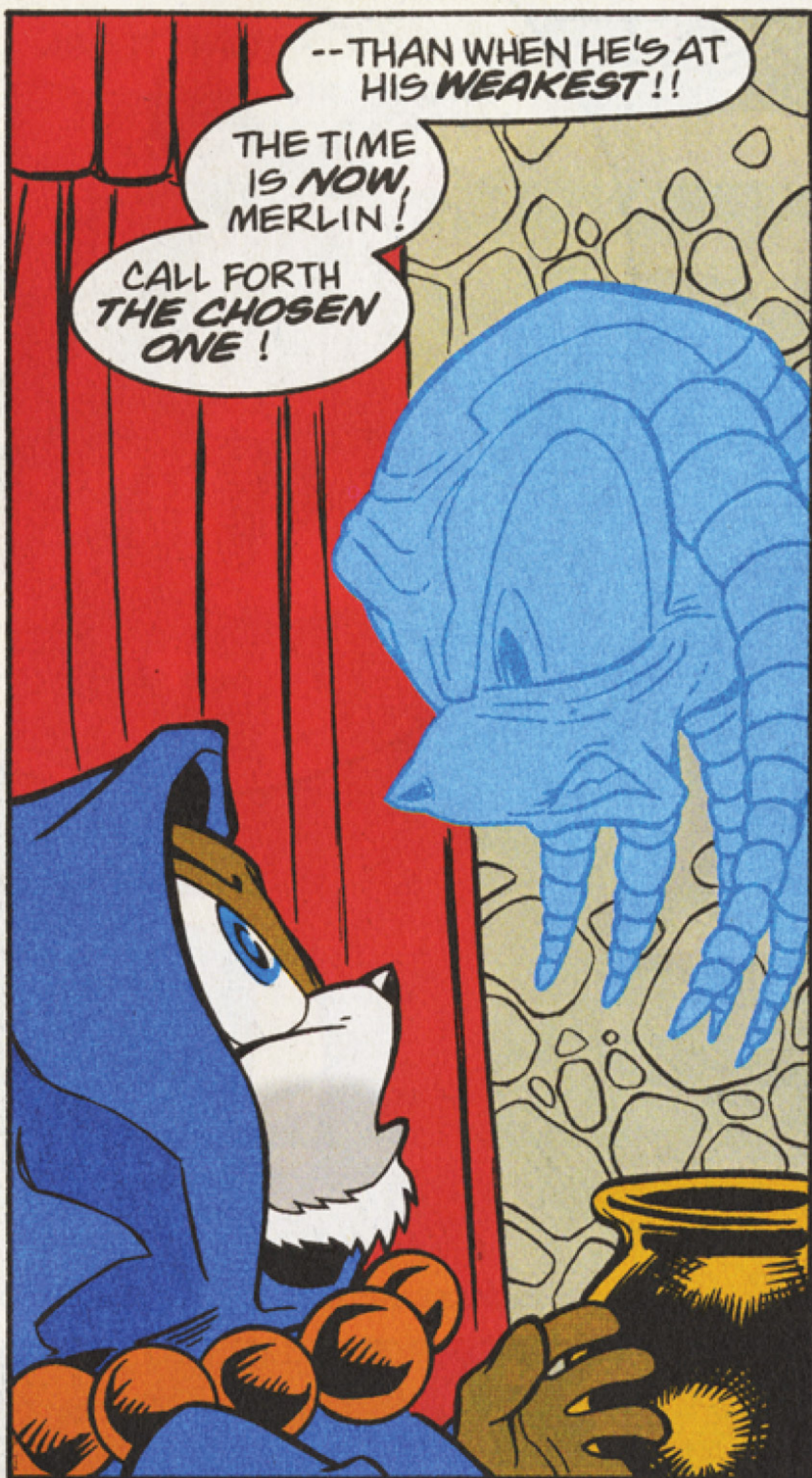


AND NOW-- NOTHING!
AREN'T YOU CONCERNED, ATHAIR?



ON THE CONTRARY, MERLIN!

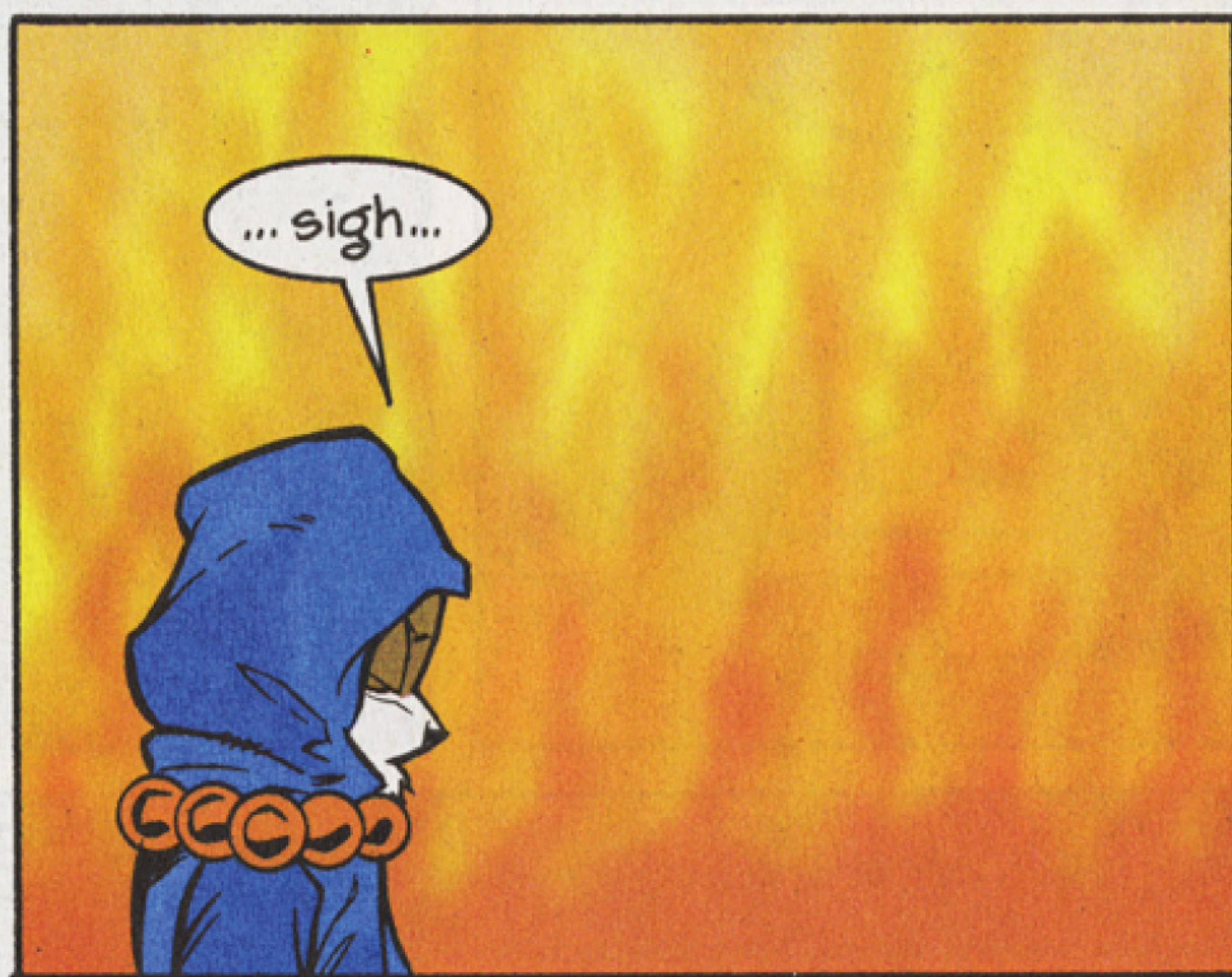
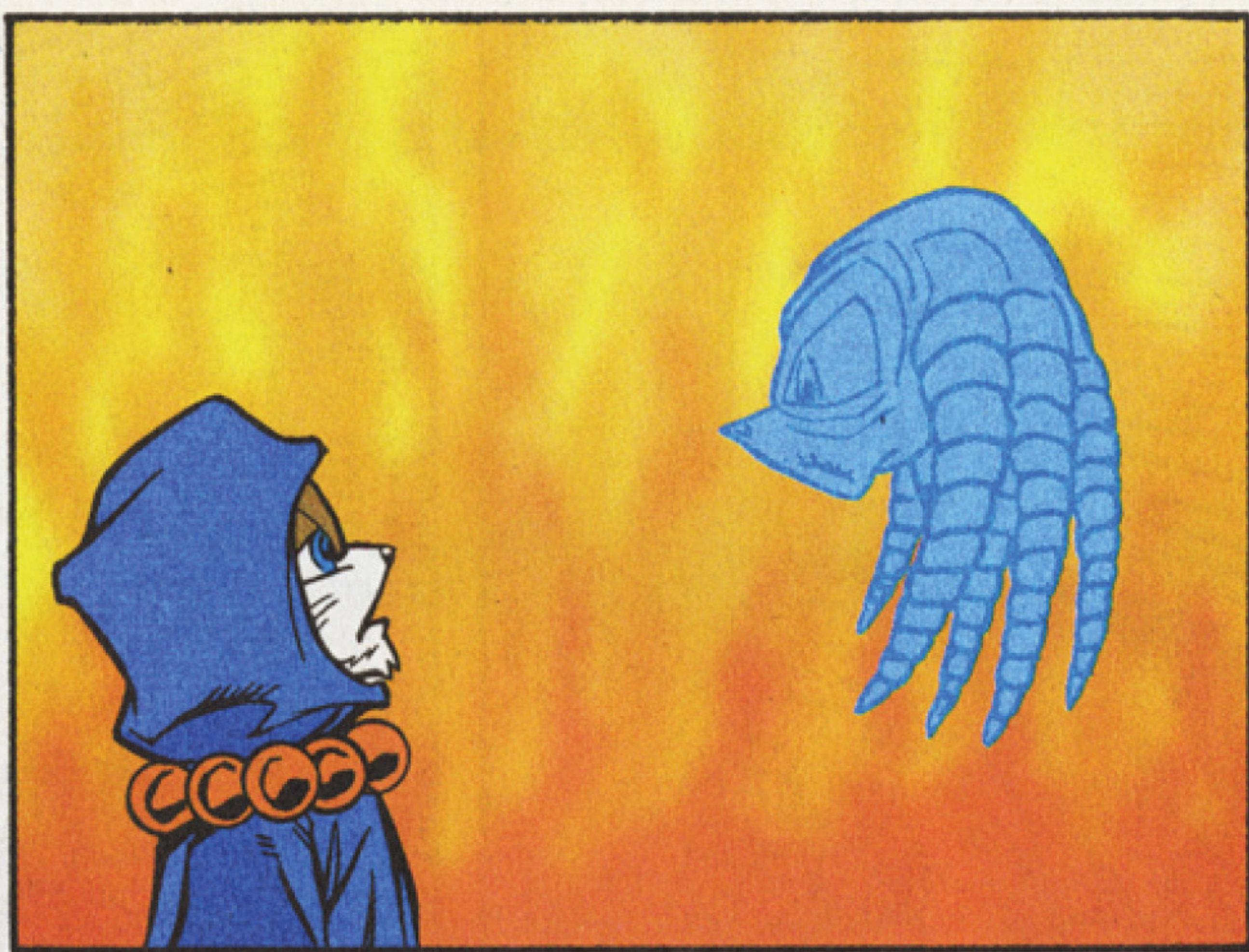
THERE MAY BE NO BETTER TIME THAN NOW IN DEALING WITH MY GREAT-GRANDSON--



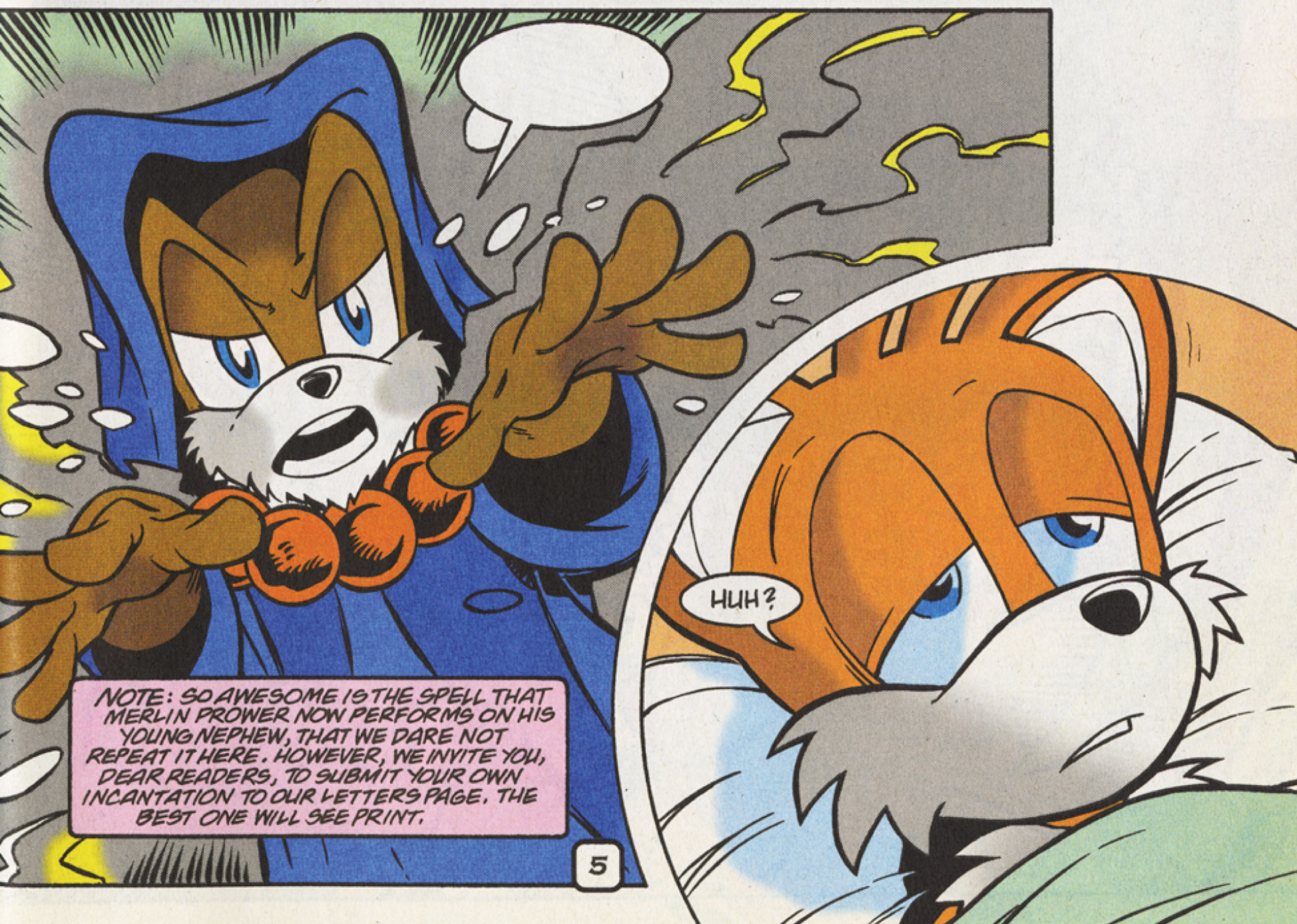
--THAN WHEN HE'S AT HIS WEAKEST!!

THE TIME IS NOW, MERLIN!

CALL FORTH THE CHOSEN ONE!

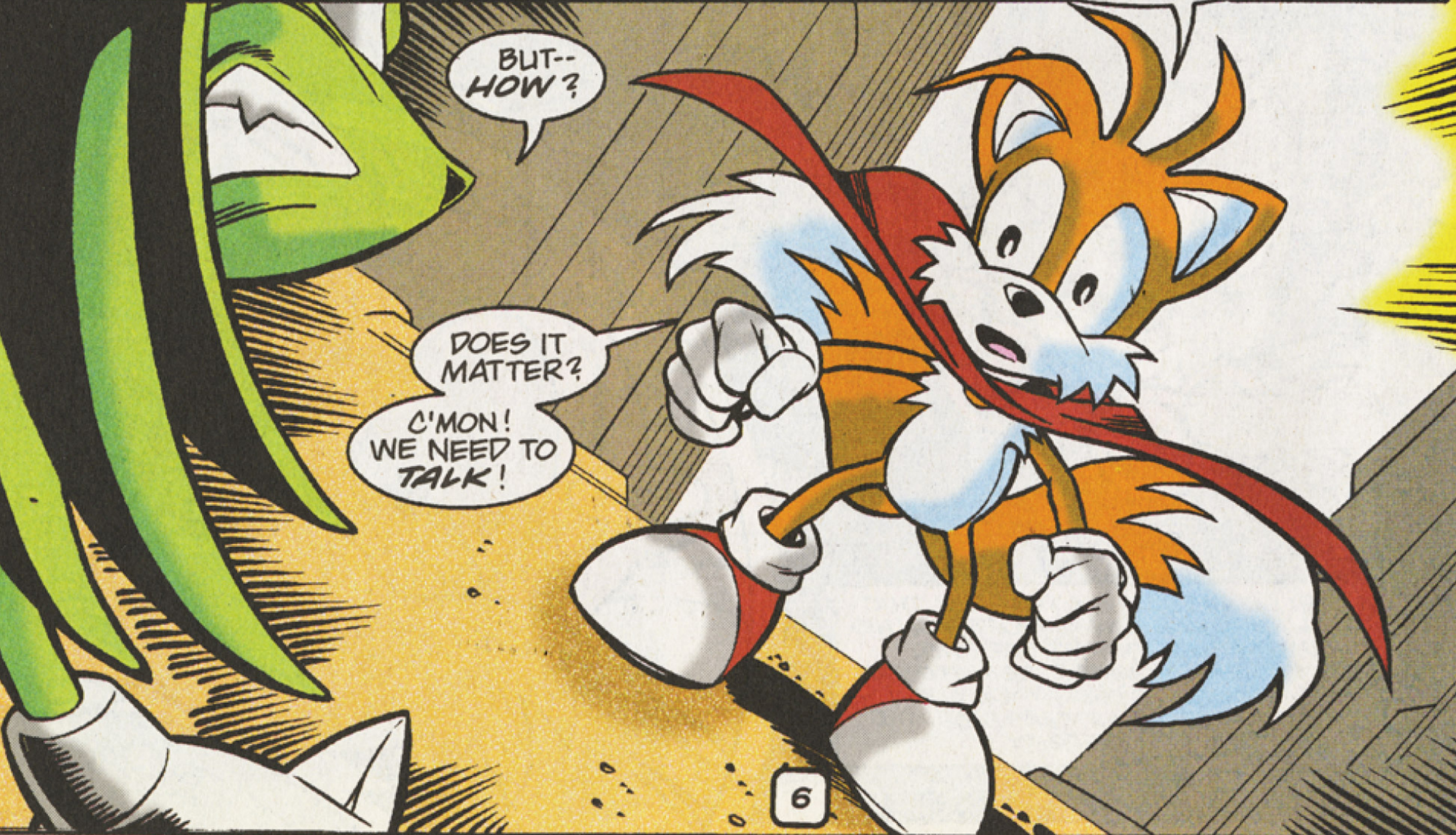
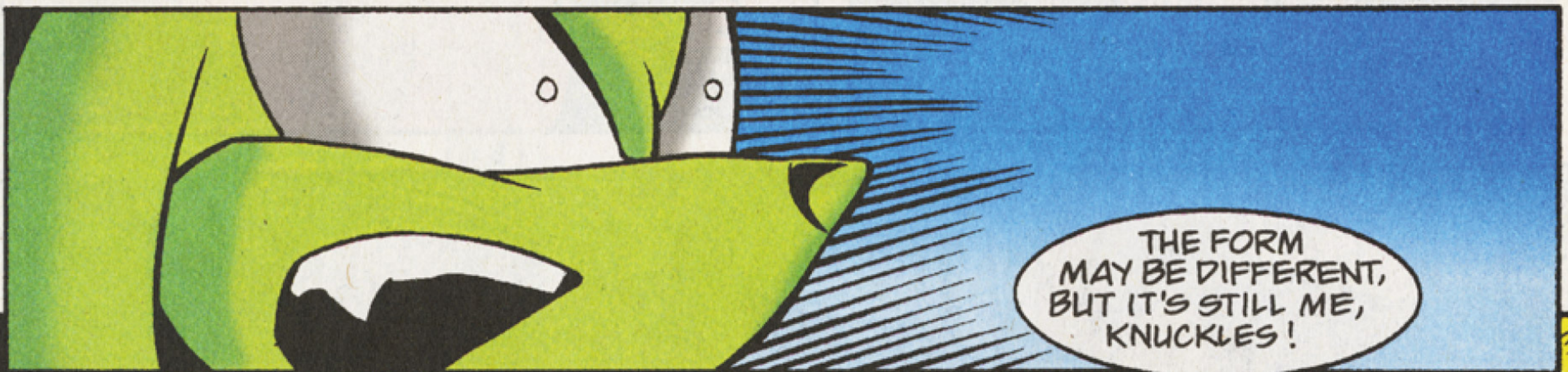
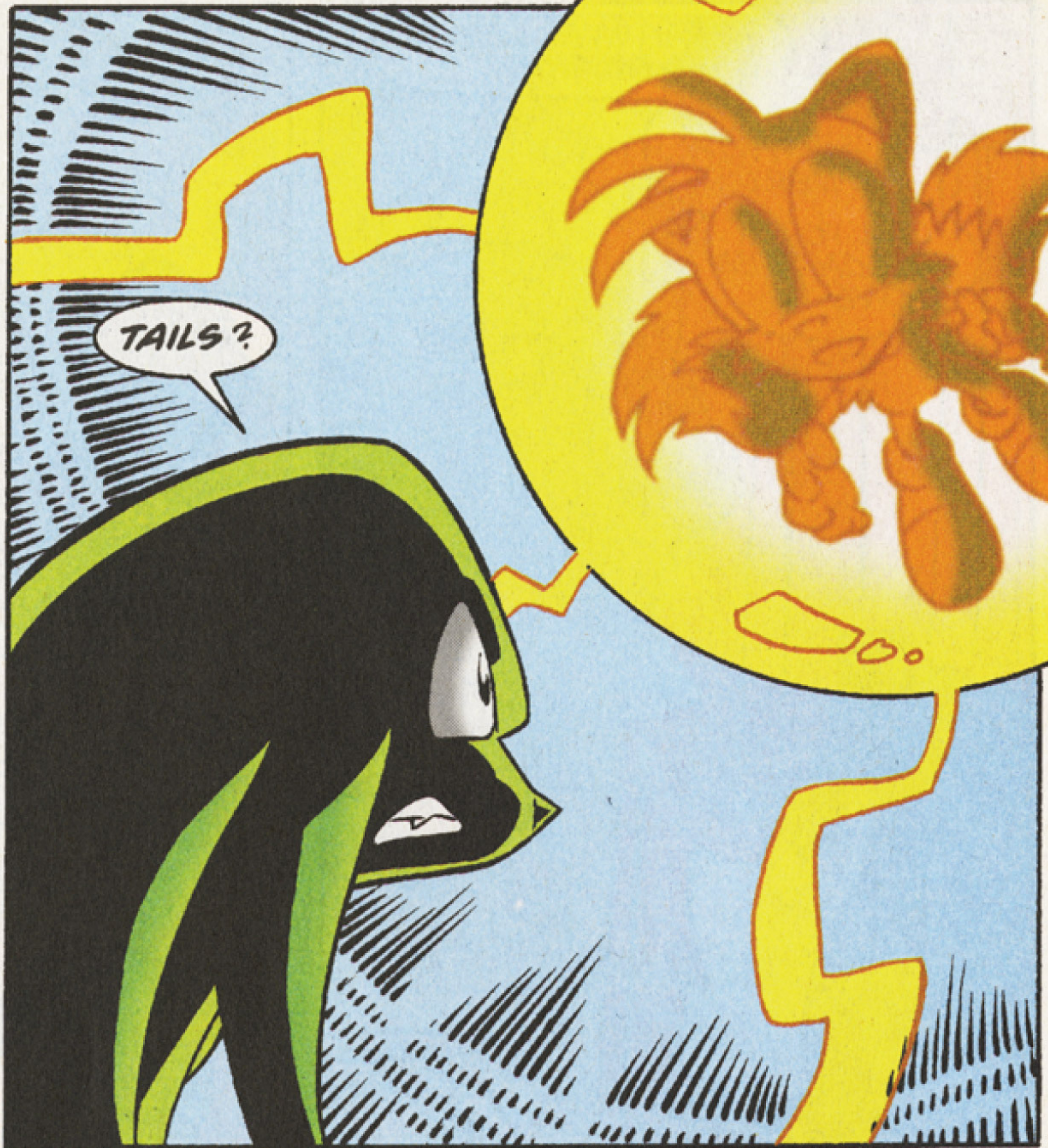
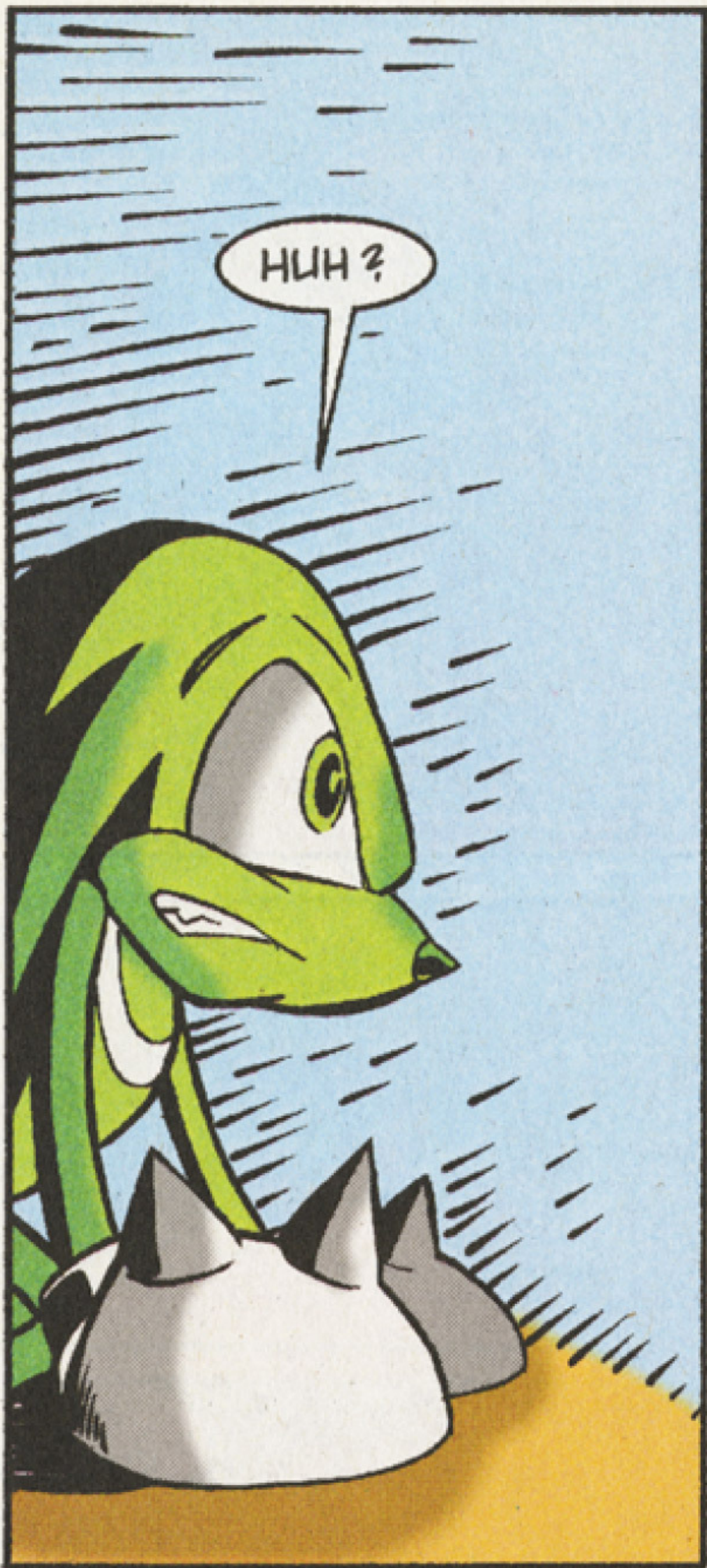


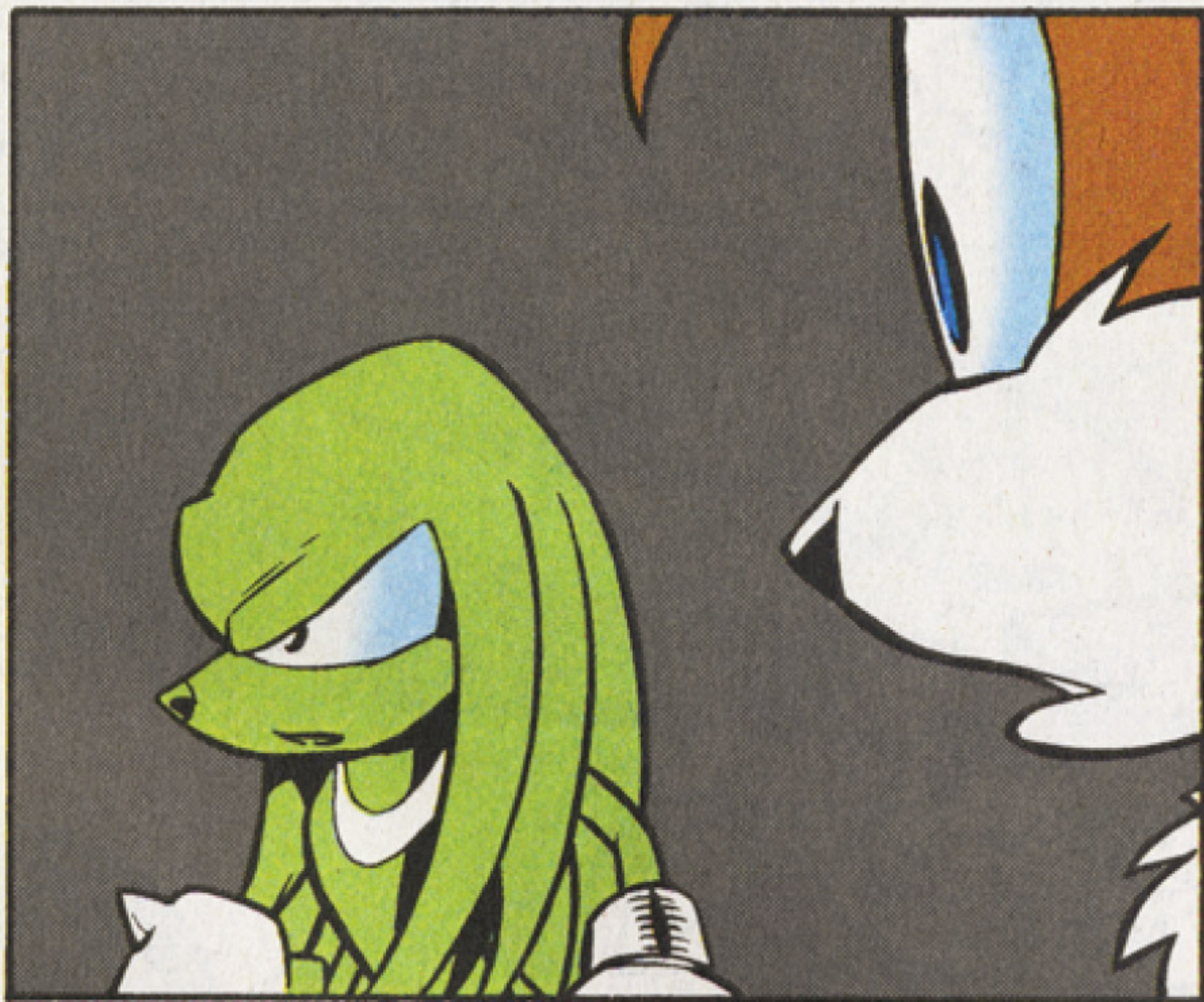
... sigh...



HUH?

NOTE: SO AWESOME IS THE SPELL THAT MERLIN PROWER NOW PERFORMS ON HIS YOUNG NEPHEW, THAT WE DARE NOT REPEAT IT HERE. HOWEVER, WE INVITE YOU, DEAR READERS, TO SUBMIT YOUR OWN INCANTATION TO OUR LETTERS PAGE. THE BEST ONE WILL SEE PRINT.





YOU'RE NOT
HERE TO *HELP*
ME AT ALL, ARE
YOU?

WHAAM!

WOOF!

I'M SORRY,
KNUCKLES--

--BUT I DON'T THINK
YOU CAN TELL *FRIEND* FROM
FOE RIGHT NOW!!

SAYS WHO?

ANY MUG WHO
DECKS ME SURE AIN'T
A FRIEND--

--SO YOU BETTER
GET READY TO
RUMBLE!!!

**NEXT: DEATHMATCH
ECHIDNA STYLE!!!
C-YA IN 30!!!**